FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PRESIDENT ALFONSIN CITED ON EVENTS IN SALTA

PY310140 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1855 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 30 May (NA) -- President Raul Alfonsin has attributed the investigations carried out in Salta by employees of the Secretariat for State Intelligence [SIDE] to former agents of that organization who "were thrown out" by the constitutional government after 10 December.

This revelation was made by Salta Governor Roberto Romero at the end of the meeting which President Alfonsin held with Isabel Peron and the 12 Justicialist governors. Romero said that the subject "was assessed and that some observations were made in this regard" during the meeting. "The president told us that what had happened in Salta is just pure barbarism and that these were maneuvers of officials he threw out when he assumed the government," Romero stated.

VICE PRESIDENT DEPARTS FOR EL SALVADOR

PY301225 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1113 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 May (TELAM) -- Vice President Victor Martinez this morning departed for El Salvador to participate in the inaugural ceremony of the new Salvadoran president, Jose Napoleon Duarte. Martinez, who heads the delegation officially invited to the ceremony, left from the military sector of Jorge Newbery Airport at 0755.

Comments on Foreign Debt

PY301333 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1142 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 30 May (TELAM) -- Vice President Victor Martinez today stated that members of the General Labor Committee have conveyed to him their solidarity and their support for democracy.

The chairman of the Senate made these remarks at the metropolitan airport shortly before departing for El Salvador at the head of an Argentine delegation which has been officially invited to attend the inauguration of the new Salvadoran officials.

Commenting on the foreign debt, Martinez said that important steps are being taken toward the signing of a letter of intent -- which has already been drafted -- with the IMF and described as important the meeting President Alfonsin held with U.S. Ambassador Frank Ortiz and with officials of other countries.

ENERGY SECRETARY CONFIRMS OIL SELF-SUFFICIENCY

PY290331 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1327 GMT 28 May 84

[Excerpt] Mar del Plata, 28 May (TELAM) -- Energy Secretary Conrado Storani today said that the country will be self-sufficient in oil during 1984. He added: We want to create mixed societies in which Government Oil Deposits (YPF) can keep 51 percent of the capital, establish policies, and have the power of decision. He also said: We are going to bid for the construction of the gas pipeline in Neuquen this year, an area where there are 700 million cubic meters of proven reserves. He also announced the exploitation of coal in Rio Turbio and that we do this it will be necessary to get foreign capital and technology.

In statements to a newspaper in this capital the energy secretary advocated the need to intensify the replacement of oil for natural gas, indicating that this will mean a change in the structure of the country's energy consumption.

BOARD REVEALS REGIME'S FINANCIAL DEFICIENCIES

PY302040 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 May 84 p 11

[Text] (NA) -- The National Administrative Investigations Board yesterday revealed it had proof of "serious deficiencies" in the financial transactions made by the last military government abroad, especially during the administration of former Economy Minister Jose Martinez de Hoz.

Meanwhile, presidential secretary German Lopez said the signing of a letter of intent with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was "imminent." He also said the letter would have no effect on the forthcoming meeting of Latin American foreign and economy ministers to discuss the foreign debt and interest rate hikes. Other government sources yesterday gave a June 15 deadline for the submission of the letter.

In his report on the military regime's financial stewardship, Board President Ricardo Molinas said he could "find no justificiation for incurring a foreign debt in order to boost foreign currency reserves and far less for placing a considerable proportion of those funds in banking institutions abroad." Molinas did not rule out the possiblitiy that much of this money could be brought back to Argentina, "either by voluntary means or by expropriation." He described the capital exodus as constituing "aid" to the recipient countries while Argentina itself became indebted to private foreign bankers.

Molinas, a Santa Fe Progressive Democrat, pointed out there was a high correlation between the sum total of the increase of foreign currency reserves plus overseas investments in the 1976-1978 period and the total increase of the foreign debt during the same period. Most of these investments had been placed abroad for periods exceeding three months, he added, i.e., longer than the period required for normal foreign trade transactions. Furthermore, the loans these operations necessitated were incurred in a period of high interest rates which rose steadily, Molinas charged. He named 14 specific loans between 1976 and 1980 ranging from three to 60 million dollars in value and involving banks such as Chase Manhattan, the Bank of Boston, City Bank, Credit Lyonnais, and several minor financial institutions. Molinas also mentioned the commissions included in loan transactions, state guarantees for various private firms during the Martinez de Hoz tenure in office, and the dealings in connection with the purchase of the Italo-Argentino Electric Company.

ARMED FORCES MEMBER CONTRADICTS ALFONSIN

PY261525 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Colonel Jorge Gonzalez Ramirez, secretary general of the Armed Forces' Supreme Council, has said that contrary to what the president of the Republic has stated, military courts do not deal with merely administrative cases but with all kinds of legal action. In an eloquent defense of the military courts, Gonzalez Ramirez maintained that they pass judgment on crimes of a military nature or on those committed inside military barracks. It should be recalled that Col Gonzalez Ramirez submitted his resignation from his post a few days ago.

PERON, CGT TO HOLD NATIONAL PLENUM 6 JUNE

PY310135 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2235 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 30 May (DYN) -- Former President Maria Martinez de Peron will preside over a national plenum of secretaries general of the CGT [General Labor Confereration] on 6 June in this capital. Negotiations are also being carried out with the intention of asking the government to grant the use of the CGT building, located at 802 Azopardo St, for that event. The CGT building has never been returned to the labor movement since it was taken over by the military regime that overthrew the former president.

This information was made known by sources close to Peron's widow after she met this morning with Saul Ubaldini (Brewery Workers), one of the CGT's four secretaries general. The meeting has been linked to the preparations for the event.

JUSTICIALISTS ON PERON-ALFONSIN MEETING

PY302235 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 May (DYN) -- The Liaison Committee and Justicialist governors have asserted in a joint communique regarding the meeting with Mrs Maria Estela Martinez de Peron and President Raul Alfonsin that during the meeting they had requested the establishment of guidelines to conciliate the national budget with the provincial governments' needs. Moreover, they also requested the implementation of federal councils provided for in the various state bodies as well as the straightening out and strengthening of provincial banks through a national financial policy in this sense.

The joint communique states that the meeting was opened by Isabel [Peron] who invited the governors to voice their concerns in order to "seek common solutions within the institutional framework." It is pointed out that the following governors spoke: Fernando Riera from Tucuman, Jose Maria Vernet from Santa Fe, and Carlos Juares from Santiago del Estero. These governors voiced their desire to achieve a national unity and the need to join criteria "in view of the fact that, because of the peoples' will, the various government levels are divided between the two main political forces of the country."

GALLUP POLL FINDS ALFONSIN 'VERY STRONG'

PY300050 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2122 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] According to a poll conducted by the Gallup Institute of Argentina 6 months after the election that led him to Government House, the image of Raul Alfonsin is still "very strong." The poll was conducted last April among 1,000 people 18 or older in the Federal Capital and greater Buenos Aires. The results were highly positive regarding the personal qualities of Alfonsin and his presidential aptitudes, and they only revealed skepticism about his qualifications as a good administrator and as a practical man. In these aspects, the presidential image obtained less than 50 percent of favorable opinions, with a high percentage of abstentions.

The poll also found that women in the 18-24 age group, the over-65 age group, the more educated, the higher socioeconomic levels, the inhabitants of the capital, and the members of the UCR expressed markedly favorable opinions of Alfonsin.

These were the favorable percentages for the following qualifications of President Alfonsin: an intelligent man, 90 percent; a likeable man, 89 percent; a very popular man, 87 percent; a dynamic person, 85 percent; qualities to be a good president, 84 percent; a decisive man, 82 percent; a man with authority, 80 percent; a communicative person, 76 percent; a sincere person, 75 percent. Abstentions regarding these qualifications ranged from 7 to 15 percent.

To a lesser degree, the president was also attributed with the following characteristics: imagination and innovation, 66 percent; tranquil temperment, 64 percent; interest in the nation above his party, 63 percent. In this regard, 20 percent of the polling sample gave no answer.

Percentages of approval decreased further regarding the following aspects: has a well-defined government program, 55 percent; is a man of exceptional ability, 53 percent; has ability to find modern solutions, 49 percent; is a good administrator, 47 percent; and is a practical man, 42 percent. Abstentions in this regard were about 25 percent.

The Gallup Poll also revealed that the public finds the greatest difficulty in placing Alfonsin in the ideological spectrum: tending to the center, 35 percent; tending to the left, 18 percent; and tending to the right, 16 percent. In this regard, 31 percent of those polled preferred not to answer.

RADICAL DEPUTIES CENSURE PARAGUAYAN PRESIDENT

PY250220 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0008 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May (DYN) -- The Radical Party bloc at the Chamber of Deputies has stated its concern over "the lack of respect for public freedom" in the Republic of Paraguay in a statement issued because of the announced visit of the president of that country, Alfredo Stroessner, to the Chaco Province to participate in ceremonies marking the 25th of May.

The lawmakers stated that their concern is based on the "hampering of the activities of the opposition political parties, which in some cases consisted in the banishment of the leaders, and in the recent closure of the daily ABC COLOR, something which directly affects the right to press freedom."

The statement, which bears the signature of Cesar Jaroslavsky, concludes with an appeal to the Paraguayan president to "shortly reestablish the civil rights and the respect to all political rallies" in that country.

Stroessner was invited to visit Chaco Province by its Justicialist governor, Florencio Tenev, who, due to this action, received strong criticism from political parties and organizations defending human rights.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO NICARAGUA -- Buenos Aires, 15 May (DYN) -- The Argentine Foreign Ministry today reported that the Nicaraguan Government has approved the appointment of Mario Izaguirre as Argentine ambassador to Nicaragua. [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1520 GMT 15 May 84 PY]

SPANISH OFFICIAL VISITS -- Buenos Aires, 14 May (TELAM) -- Spanish Secretary for Trade Luis de Velasco today arrived in Buenos Aires to participate in the 9th meeting of the Argentine-Spanish Joint Commission. He stated that in a couple of years trade between the two nations could reach $500 million and the current tendency unfavorable to his country could be reversed. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1728 GMT 14 May 84 PY]

GOVERNMENT, COB LEADERS REACH SOME AGREEMENTS

PY301907 Paris AFP in Spanish 1532 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] La Paz, 30 May (AFP) -- Today it was reported in La Paz that the government and the powerful Bolivian labor movement had laboriously reached a preliminary agreement on economic matters which, provided that it is consolidated, will end a long confrontation which has virtually paralyzed productive activities in Bolivia.

After more than 8 hours of hard bargaining, President Hernan Siles Zuazo and the top leaders of the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) concurred nearly at midnight on most of the items listed on a bulky economic agenda.

The government again ratified its offer to increase salaries by 130 percent, something which it deems unreviewable. The COB disagrees with that percentage and is demanding higher compensation.

Agreements were struck concerning the postponement of the payment of interest on the foreign debt to foreign banks, the coercive collection of taxes from two U.S. oil enterprises, and the regulation of the new legal bank reserves of 100 percent.

In addition, a favorable approach was obtained on almost all the economic demands of the campesino sector such as the reduction of milk prices, the supply of power to productive activities, and strict control of the black market on foreign currencies.

These agreements were reached at a time when stoppages, protest marches, and a hunger strike by more than 5,000 trade unionists demanding a substantial change in economic policies were being held.

The government has expressly stated that it will not take over the debts of the private enterprises.

The agreements reached and remaining problems will be reviewed during a special meeting the COB will hold today in La Paz. The meeting will decide if the pressure actions against the government are to be suspended or increased.

130-Percent Salary Increase

PY301819 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] The Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] is at present holding a general meeting to decide whether to accept the preliminary agreement that was achieved between the COB's CEN [Executive National Committee] and President Siles Zuazo.

However, this is not yet the last word on the negotiations, since everything is subject to the conclusions of the general meeting, and there are many questions still pending. For example, what will happen if worker acceptance of the 130-percent salary increase causes an increase in the inflation rate? We believe that this is precisely the main issue of this question: An increase in inflation and its harmful effects on an already poor economy.

Cadena Panamericana posed this concern to Labor Minister Horst Grebe, one of those responsible for the government's economic policy:

[Begin Horst Grebe recording] Undoubtedly it will have an impact on inflation, mainly because of the way the salary of public employees is being financed, that is, through the issuance of bills. [end recording]

But the government hopes that through a series of financial, exchange, and credit measures this impact will be absorbed.

The labor minister said that if workers actively participate in the system of price controls and supply and the strengthening of the government's capacity to control prices, the impact of inflation may not be as serious as if nothing were done.

He added that if the government merely grants a salary increase without taking the proper measures, the impact on inflation will be quite strong.

Now we have to wait and see whether the COB will accept the proposed 130-percent salary increase.

Foreign Debt Payments Stopped

PA302340 Paris AFP in Spanish 2206 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] La Paz, 30 May (AFP) -- Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo's government today announced that it has suspended payment of the Bolivian foreign debt to privately owned international banks because of pressure exerted by Bolivian unions. The London stock exchange immediately reflected a downward trend in its transactions of a result of the move, it was reported in La Paz.

The powerful Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) demanded that the payments be suspended as one of the union's conditions for normalizing the country's economic activities, which were virtually paralyzed by protests against the government's economic measures issued last 12 April.

The measures included the devaluation of the Bolivian peso 300 percent with regard to the U.S. dollar, while staple products, fuel, and transportation prices suffered drastic increases.

It is recalled that Bolivia has negotiated credits totalling $5.3 billion, while it has spent $4.3 billion of that amount. Of the $4.3 billion, $1.02 billion corresponds to debts contracted with private foreign banks. According to the official announcement, Bolivia will neither make payments against the debt nor service the interest payments so long as the country's productive machinery is in a state of recession.

Siles Zuazo and the COB reported that they will continue to honor the foreign debt contracted with international financial institutions such as the World Bank and IDB in order to continue securing lesser credits from those organizations.

It is recalled that when Siles Zuaro assumed power on 10 October 1982 he proposed a meeting of Latin American heads of state to take a joint stand on the foreign debt problem. At that time the idea received no support.

Yesterday, Jaime Paz Zamora, the vice president and leader of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR, proposed an extension of 4 years on the payment of Bolivia's foreign debt, so that the country's democratic system might survive.

The proposal will be analyzed at the joint meeting that will take place between the executive Branch, the parliament, the Armed Forces, the political parties, and civic and regional organizations.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Flavio Machicado Saravia, who apparently believes that the foreign debt should be paid in full, has resigned.

Bolivia, which exports $800 million each year, paid $650 million in 1982 and $350 million in 1983 to service its foreign debt. It would have to pay almost $800 million in 1984.

Workers Lift Hunger Strike

PY310115 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] The Bolivian workers' movement has decided to lift their voluntary hunger strike. In compliance with a decision adopted by the national meeting of the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB], the workers who have been on a hunger strike decided to lift this strike this afternoon. The general meeting was held between 1517 and 1530 at the Teachers' Social Club.

The meeting adjourned until 1430 tomorrow, Thursday. During this meeting, all government proposals will be studied, according to reports released to the communications media by COB's authorized spokesmen. It was said that representatives of different sectors of the country will participate in the meeting.

DELEGATION TO ATTEND DUARTE'S INAUGURATION

PY310117 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Communications Minister Haroldo Correo de Mattos will represent Brazil at the inauguration of the new president of El Salvador, Jose Napoleon Duarte, on 1 June. The minister will be accompanied by Brazilian Ambassador to El Salvador Mario Dias Costa, and Itamaraty Americas Department head Rubem Rico. The announcement was made by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry.

FIGUEIREDO MAY PROPOSE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

PY301715 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 May 84

[Relay from Brasilia by Carlos Rodrigues]

[Excerpts] Negotiations and "direct elections now" were the main political issues discussed yesterday in Brasilia. Continuing with his talks with government and opposition leaders, Acting President Aureliano Chaves yesterday met with Luiz Inacio "Lula" da Silva, president of the Workers Party [PT]. After a 1-and-1/2-hour meeting, Lula left Chaves' office saying that the talks had met his expectations.

Lula wants the opposition to take a tougher stand concerning direct elections now, adding that Chaves continues to support this position.

Lula also denied that the PT may agree to participate in an election through the Electoral College.

The National Pro-Direct Election Committee, which is made up of members of opposition parties and of various organizations, has decided in a meeting in Brasilia that full popular mobilization must be immediately resumed nationwide to rally for "direct elections now." The committee also decided to give all support to the rally to be staged here in Brasilia on 1 June. The next rally will take place in Sao Paulo, Belo Horizonte, or Rio de Janeiro.

Amid all these developments, a proposal is beginning to take shape: President Figueiredo may propose to the Social Democratic Party and the opposition a list of five names, from which a consensus candidate who would replace him may be chosen. The existence of this proposal was admitted here in Brasilia by Acting President Aureliano Chaves and by Deputy Nelson Marchezan, the PDs leader in the Chamber of Deputies. Marchezan said that he will have to discuss this issue with President Figueiredo as soon as the president returns from abroad.

EDITORIAL NOTES PRESIDENT REAGAN'S 'INSTINCTS'

PY310040 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 30 May 84 p 10

[Editorial: "Double Dose"]

[Text] Considering the seriousness of the crisis in the Persian Gulf, President Reagan had promised 200 portable land-air Stinger missiles to Saudi Arabia to protect navigation in the Gulf against possible Iranian air attacks. Reagan now announces that he will send 400 missiles.

This "quantitative jump" somewhat characterizes a persistent trend in the current U.S. foreign policy which can be labeled as "overplaying." Prodded by what he believes are his instincts, Reagan becomes enthusiastic, and the scale of things changes.

So it was in Lebanon, and so it has been in Central America. In Lebanon, the U.S. participation was basically part of a "multinational peacekeeping force." Soon the character of the force was completely distorted, and the United States, without being in the position to do so, assumed the role of virtual guarantor of President al-Jumayyil. The result was a sorry one, especially when compared with the fiery tone of several Reagan pronouncements.

In Central America, the "overplaying" began sooner when the conflict was characterized by then Secretary of State Alexander Haig as a head-on clash between the world's greatest power systems. The secretary of state who succeeded Haig, George Shultz, managed to execute a "downplaying" in that overheated area, but the former style did not disappear completely and the CIA was given more rope for the policy of confrontation with Nicaragua, more than was necessary or advisable.

That President Reagan does not have good instincts is not the point. If he did not have them, he would not be a successful politician. And few would deny that he does not have that qualification, at this time when he is preparing himself to run for a second term in the best of conditions. With those instincts, Reagan shook off the mounting demoralization which during the Carter term crept into the U.S. global position vis-a-vis the Soviet bloc.

The least that can be said about the Reagan "instincts," however, is that they ought to be processed through a conceptual screen much more sophisticated than the one through which they have been processed so far. And this is an urgent need at the time of dealing with a crisis which can surpass all others in risk and complexity.

After the Lebanese anticlimax, the U.S. policy toward the Arab world should have been crafted with utmost tact and competence in order to recover lost ground and prestige. The massive shipment of missiles to Saudi Arabia does not indicate that things are being done that way. Maybe Washington has forgotten that the U.S. "overplaying" in favor of the shah of Iran created an unreal little tyrant and prepared, to a great extent, the Khamene'i earthquake?

FOLHA ON SALE OF PLANES, CENTRAL AMERICA

PY302330 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 May 84 p 7

[By Joao Batista Natali]

[Text] The ambassadors of the Contadora Group (Mexico, Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela) in Brasilia have strong diplomatic reasons to protest the sale of eight Embraer Tucano planes to the Honduran Armed Forces, planes which are to be used for "training." After all, Brazil has publicly supported the Group's efforts for a negotiated, nonmilitary solution to the Central American conflicts. The seventh of the 20 points in the Contadora Declaration recommends an end to the arms race, and calls for negotiations to reduce personnel and arsenals. Another reason is that Brazil, in the eyes of the four ambassadors, appears to act as a unit at the decisionmaking level.

In practice, decisionmaking is not always unitary: Itamaraty has no jurisdiction over the export of military materiel which is managed by the military industries themselves and the National Security Council.

This lack of unity at the decisionmaking level explains how the government has now been involved in a diplomatic incident the cost of which is much higher than the profit: The triangular contract on the Tucanos (Honduras takes delivery and the United States pays for them) will only yield $9.6 million in 1984 when the country is trying to export $24 billion worth of products. And Itamaraty is somewhat at a loss to justify a decision it would have advised against by saying that such a decision did in no way violate the National Program for Export of Military Materiel. Very well, this is not a ministry with enough leverage to make political decisions, but just a governmental bureau which distributes export incentives to industrialists of the sector.

Brazil has, however, embarked on a boat which sails seas plied by large ships. This is primarily the case of the United States which, although it has repeatedly considered "positive" the Contadora initiatives, it approved last week a $62-million emergency military aid to El Salvador. The first installment of $1.3 billion out of an $8 billion "package" was approved 2 weeks ago. This package had been recommended by the Kissinger commission for the Central American and the Caribbean countries, including funds for civilian programs also. At the other ideological end, Nicaragua is receiving aid from the socialist bloc, aid which, according to Washington, is re-exported to the Salvadoran rebels; but which, according to the Sandinists, is used to counter the growing rightist guerrilla operating out of bases in Honduras, the country that bought the Brazilian Tucano T-27's.

It can thus be seen that extraregional interests of different weights (the United States openly invests to preserve its sphere of influence) are turning the Contadora Group into a forum of well-intentioned discussions, the concrete effects of which are held in doubt by the participants themselves.

After submitting the 20-point Contadora Declaration to the five countries which are involved to a greater extent in conflict (Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica); after obtaining their approval; and after delivering it last October to the UN secretary general, the good intentions could be smoothly put to rest. Hondurans, Salvadorans, and Guatemalans, who are more sensitive to pressures from Washington, would never permit "the peace plan" to be implemented, because in El Salvador the plan would disarm the local government in its fight against the guerrillas.

The formula consisted in creating "study groups" by sectors which submitted reports on the basis of which the Contadora Group prepared a new plan, on 30 April, that will be submitted to new discussions.

Although the plan's failure is predictable, this initiative carries important historic weight, because this is the first time that Latin Americans have tried to discuss their problems jointly, without being sponsored or benevolently being looked upon by the United States.

ARMS EXPORTS TRIPLE DURING JANUARY-MAY

PY301454 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 29 May 84 p 15

[By Milton F. da Rocha Filho]

[Text] Sao Paulo -- Brazilian arms exports practically tripled from January to May, according to reports yesterday by major suppliers of components for the national arms industry. Without revealing any figures, Engesa [Specialized Engineers, Inc.] President Jose Luis Whitaker affirmed that the export sector "did better" than during the same period last year.

Well-established arms manufacturers have reported that Brazil is exporting shells, rockets, light armored vehicles, aircraft, revolvers, rifles, machineguns, and submachineguns. A firm that supplies high-level technology components to the national arms industry pointed out yesterday that his firm has increased production "in order to meet all orders from arms manufacturers."

The businessman, whose firm provides components to Engesa, Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company], and Avibras [Brazilian Aerospace], said that in the next 5 years orders for weapons might reach $10 billion. "Last year the national industry received orders totaling $2 billion, which will be met in the next 24 months. New orders are being made and arms factories are expanding," the industrialist said.

The production capacity of firms has expanded over the past year. Engesa, for example, incorporated three other firms: the FNV Veículos, Amplimag, and Bardela Borriello. Engesa managers said that the incorporation of these firms will increase Engesa's production capacity, adding that the entire production of the San Jose dos Campos was being earmarked for meeting foreign orders in the next 2 years.

Avibras also expanded its production capacity by constructing the Avibras 2 factory in Jacaret, which is capable of becoming the largest Latin American manufacturer of shells and rockets and a major exporter to the Middle East, Africa, and South America.

Another enterprise that has expanded its capacity for producing arms equipment is Embraer, which is already manufacturing Tucano planes in San Jose dos Campos and is constructing a factory to manufacture the AMX aircraft, a military combat jet that Embraer is developing with Italian firms. Embraer is also manufacturing the military version of the Bandeirantes aircraft, which serves to transport troops and for patrol operations, and plans to manufacture the Brasilia patrol plane.

A businessman explained that as arms factories do not manufacture components (they depend on components manufactured by third parties) and they must order parts on the domestic market, small and medium-scale component manufacturers must make an effort to expand their production capacity.

Arms exports are made secretly, as importers usually stipulate this in the agreement. Brazil exports arms to practically all the South American countries. For example, if Argentina does not import finished products, it buys special-alloy metal plates from the firm Electrometal of Campinas to manufacture arms. In addition to South America, Brazil exports weapons to Africa and the Middle East (Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Libya and Algeria).

PINOCHET CASE TO PROCEED IN CRIMINAL COURT

PY301150 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2340 GMT 29 May 84

[Excerpts] Santiago, 29 May (EFE) -- The Second Criminal Court of Santiago will hear the trial against President Augusto Pinochet and his subordinate Colonel Ramon Castro Ivanovich filed on Monday by 24 opposition leaders. Moreover, the court must draw up an indictment against the performance of Col Castro Ivanovich.

This decision was adopted by Judge of the Santiago Court of Appeals Alberto Echavarria, who claimed to "lack jurisdiction and competence" to impeach the chief of state, because, according to the Constitution of the military regime, President Pinochet has "immunity" the judge stated. However, Echavarria stated that Gen Pinochet's subordinate, Col Castro Ivanovich, has no immunity and must, therefore, be indicted.

Col Castro Ivanovich followed instructions given by Gen Pinochet in real estate operations in the Andean zone of "El Melocoton," involving "tax evasion" practices denounced by the accusers.

These accusers are the same 24 persons headed by Andres Zaldivar, chairman of the World Union of Christian Democrats, and including outstanding politicians of the opposition linked to the multiparty group Democratic Alliance who on 4 May brought charges against Pinochet at the Supreme Court.

Regarding these charges, Justice Echavarria, who was assigned to the case on 9 May, has recused himself for lacking jurisdiction.

The lawyers who filed the suit today stated that they will study the actions to be taken in view of the recusal of Echavarria.

Pinochet Responds

PY310300 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2352 GMT 30 May 84

[Quotation marks as received]

[Excerpts] Santiago, 30 May (TELAM-ANSA-EFE) -- While speaking before members of the Foundation of Mothers Centers of Chile (Cema-Chile), which is presided over by his wife Lucia Hiriart, President Augusto Pinochet has asserted that those members of the opposition that have accused him before the court of having defrauded the treasury "should now have trembling knees because his government is going to respond with a strong arm."

Although the case is still pending in court, Pinochet has made harsh statements against his accusers. The president stated that "none of these gentlemen know anything about the honor and dignity of the Chilean soldier. I have been deeply hurt, but have recovered thanks to the support I have received, and we are now going to act with a strong arm."

After making this statement the president was interviewed by the media and was asked what he thought about the reiterated request made by some sectors of the citizenry for a strong-arm policy, which he has just announced.

Pinochet answered that "there are many things that can be done. We are going to strengthen the intelligence and investigation forces. We are going to do many things. Another thing we could do is to reverse ourselves and establish a dictatorship, but I am not thinking of that. The question now is whether the Chileans agree to a dictatorship." In view of the possibility that many people will say yes if he asks them this question the president stated: Many people are convinced that a dictatorship is necessary but I am not thinking of that because I believe in liberty. In ending his meeting with the media and stating that he could subject this question to a plebiscite the head of the military government asserted: "There are many obstacles to a plebiscite within the Constitution which cannot be immediately overcome."

Political sectors termed as concealed threats Pinochet's statements that he still does not believe an eventual dictatorship is necessary because he believes in liberty and that obstacles to a plebiscite posed by the Constitution cannot be immediately overcome. Nevertheless, regardless of the suppositions of opposition sources, the serious warning made by Pinochet regarding the implementation of a strong-arm policy and the increase of repressive forces remained firm.

Judge Rejects New Suit

PY301401 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] The courts have for the second time rejected the new suit filed against the president of the Republic by 20 lawyers and a civil engineer. The judge hearing this case has rejected the suit filed against the president of the Republic, a suit which also involves Army Colonel Ramon Castro Ivanovich. Judge Echavarria ordered that the dossier be sent to the magistrate of the second criminal court. Echavarria claimed that he lacked jurisdiction and competence to hear the charges filed against the chief of state.

This is the second time that the courts have rejected the writs of the same group of opposition lawyers.

DEL VALLE ON POSSIBLE RETURN TO ANDEAN PACT

PY310210 Paris AFP in Spanish 0043 GMT 31 May 84

[Excerpts] Santiago, 30 May (AFP) -- Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle today announced that Chile is studying the possibility of returning to the Andean Pact, which it left 7 years ago. He rejected the assertions that insist that the country has lost a lot since it left the regional pact and he opined that there are very controversial opinions on this subject, indicating that the economic crisis is to blame for what has been lost.

The minister also indicated that Chile's eventual return to the Andean Pact, or its withdrawal from it [as received], is one of the points that has to be discussed. The foreign minister also said that he favors joining the initiatives for regional action, unless he is shown that it would be absolutely useless or against Chile's interests.

MINISTER DISCUSSES OPPOSITION GROUPS, TERRORISM

PY301427 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpt] The minister of secretary general of government has said that the opposition groups have always been a minority and that they do not hesitate to use any means at their disposal to draw attention to themselves and attack the peoples' honor, as they have done with the chief of state. This is what Minister Alfonso Marquez de la Plata told over 2,000 members of Cema-[Mothers Centers] Chile. The latter held a work meeting with the first lady in the Diego Portales building.

Marquez de la Plata said that the only thing that the former government was unable to destroy was the resoluteness, the strength, and the determination of Chilean women who set an example of courage and fortitude in overcoming that period.

Referring to terrorist actions, Marquez de la Plata said that these actions are being financed with money from abroad and that all they seek is to wreak havoc, disorder, and anarchy, for which reason the antiterrorist law was recently enacted.

Finally, Marquez de la Plata urged all women to have confidence in the destiny of Chile, in the president of the Republic, and in the first lady.

CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING LAW

PY312305 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 30 May 84 pp 1, A-10

[Text] The government junta yesterday approved the abrogation of the transitory articles of Law 18,198, thus implementing the permanent articles regarding collective bargaining in which the salary being paid at the time that the bargaining begins will be the base or "floor" amount for the bargaining process. Thus the workers can begin bargaining on the basis of the nominal wages that they are earning on the date that the petition is submitted.

Labor Minister Hugo Galvez explained at the end of a legislative session that the rules that are established in the approved law are retroactive and he indicated that there is also a transitory article on the subject. He said that this article will allow the people who are currently bargaining to apply the same rules. If there is arbitration, the employer can then submit one last proposal and the arbitrator will hand down his decision in accordance with the new rules.

The minister also stated that the transitory articles in Law 18,198 established that the floor for collective bargaining was retroactive to December 1982. "As we believe that the country's overall situation has returned to normal and that the objective of the previous rules has been accomplished, the executive branch has requested the abrogation of the transitory articles." He then explained that the rules regarding readjustability "will be subject precisely to the bargaining between the parties."

The text that has been approved by the legislative branch contains one article and one transitory article. The first article "abrogages the transitory articles of Law 18,198," while the second article states that "permanent rules established in Articles 49 and 60 of Decree Law 2,758, 1979, will now regulate the collective bargaining procedures that began prior to the implementation of this law and those that have been concluded and are waiting for the date of their implementation."

This article also highlights the fact that in those cases in which "the collective bargaining procedure is subject to arbitration, the employer can submit another proposal to the Arbitration Court within the first 10 days after the implementation of this law and thus the deadline that is established in paragraph four, Article 42, of Decree Law 2,758, 1979, will also be suspended for that 10-day period."

The message that has been submitted by the executive branch body indicates that after more than 1 year of implementing said body it is necessary to abrogate the transitory articles due to the fact that their main goal was that of "stimulating the modification of the collective contracts before their expiration date. This was done in view of the fact that the previous collective bargaining framework became incompatible with the recessive conditions that the country faced as of 1983 and this made the modification necessary.

"Moreover, the transitory articles that have been mentioned have currently lost a large part of their importance," the executive branch points out, "as the majority of the labor organizations have signed new collective contracts and therefore the rules that are established in the permanent articles of Law 2,758 are now being applied."

The message also indicates that in view of the aforementioned, the draft bill abrogates all the transitory articles of Law 18,198. Thus, as of the implementation of this law the minimum legal base of the workers that use the collective bargaining procedure, including those whose contracts are about to conclude, is subject to the permanent articles of Decree Laws 2,758 and 2,200. The message also adds that "it is made clear in a transitory article that the abrogation of the aforementioned articles is also applicable to the bargaining procedures that began prior to the approval and implementation of this law if the contracts are waiting for the date of their implementation."

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INDICTED FOR SLANDER

PY291430 Paris AFP in Spanish 2213 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 28 May (AFP) -- Osvaldo Rivera, head of the Chilean military government broadcasting and information organization, will be prosecuted by a Santiago court for slander. This was decided today by the judge hearing the case.

The suit against Rivera, director of the National Social Communication Division [DINACOS], was filed by Andres Zaldivar, chairman of the World Union of Christian Democrats, and by Gabriel Valdes, opposition leader of the same organization in Chile. Judge Jorge Pizarro indicted Rivera and stated that there are reasons to begin a trial, according to what was learned from court sources. The suit is based on a DINACOS communique which states that the two Christian Democratic leaders have held contacts with European politicians to conspire against the interests of Chile.

[Madrid EFE in Spanish at 0038 GMT on 29 May carried the following information: "Osvaldo Rivera Riffo has been informed of the judge's decision to indict him for slander and the suit is filed against him. He immediately paid the established bail and stated that he may appeal his trial."]

GOVERNMENT DENIES MEETING TO HONOR LAVANDEROS

PY270005 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0334 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 25 May (EFE) -- The Chilean Government has not authorized an event to honor opposition politician Jorge Lavanderos, in what was to be his first public appearance since he was attacked 3 months ago.

Engelberto Frias, current president of the PRODEN [National Development Project] today said that the denial received of the request made to the office of the chief of the emergency state zone does not explain the reasons for the decision. The homage for Lavanderos was scheduled to take place at the Caupolican Theater, which holds up to 8,000 persons, on 30 May.

Also at the Caupolican Theater, a demonstration in support of President General Augusto Pinochet will be held today, a demonstration which is organized by the rightest group National Action Movement (MAN).

Frias termed the resolution as "an unprecedented landmark, a defiance to the opposition, a landmark which means an end to equality before the law." According to Frias, the organizers, along with the opposition organizations which joined the homage, have not given up holding the homage, which they expect to pay shortly, in a peaceful manner and abiding by the law.

APPELLATE COURT ACQUITS OPPOSITION JOURNALIST

PY281918 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0324 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 25 May (EFE) -- The Chilean Appellate Court today acquitted Juan Pablo Cardenas, director of the opposition magazine ANALISIS. Cardenas was prosecuted on the initiative of the military government on charges of allegedly violating the internal security law by an editorial published in issue 79 on 10 April 1984. This issue was removed from magazine stands.

In the editorial, Cardenas maintained that "we do not conceal the fact that we are an opposition publication that promotes understanding and consensus among all opposition sectors in order to smash to pieces the current regime and build a democratic system."

Cardenas was under arrest between 10-27 April, 1984, when he was released on bail. Marcial Garcia, the appellate court prosecutor, proposed that Cardenas be acquitted. This proposal was opposed by Raquel Campusano, the judge hearing the case. However, the sixth chamber of the appellate court acquitted Cardenas today.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENT ADDRESSES RALLY

PY262230 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Voicing an opinion a few years ago, as is the case today as well, regarding the causes for the current economic crisis led me to exile, former Economy Minister Luis Escobar Cerda once said. This quotation has been repeated in Arica by Andres Zaldivar, president of the World Union of Christian Democrats. Our correspondent in Arica, Hector Merida, is ready to give us the details on this information. We now move to the north; Hector Merida, here is the Diario de Cooperativa program, good afternoon.

[Begin relay] Good afternoon. From Arica, a special report for the Diario de Cooperativa program. The words uttered by Minister Escobar when he said that what affected the economy was the government's joyride led him to exile a few years ago when the government's arrogance prevented it from listening to him. This was stressed by Andres Zaldivar when he scored the country's economic failure before more than 2,000 persons attending a rally staged last night in Arica. Zaldivar made on this occasion an energetic call for all the opposition to unite, at least on a basic issue which he said was to struggle for a swift and full restoration of democracy. [Words indistinct] is a nameless democracy since an authoritarian, protected, or popular democracy is not a true democracy, Zaldivar said.

Zaldivar stressed that he had found in Arica an ample willingness to ask for civilian rights, rights which are restricted now, and called for ending exile, banishments, and imprisonment of the opposition. He mentioned the case of the six political prisoners who are being held in detention in the Arica penitentiary.

Zaldivar's speech was the last of five speeches. Among the others were those made by the local presidents of the Radical Party, the Social Democratic Party, the Christian Democratic Party, and the National Workers Command (CNT).

During this massive rally, the People's Democratic Movement (MDP) made its first public appearance, displaying banners with slogans appropriate for the occasion. Banners of the Communist Party, MAPU [United Popular Action Movement], the Socialist Party, and the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] were also displayed. Besides these parties and the Democratic Alliance (AD), the Republican Right was also present for the first time.

After the rally, some disturbances occurred in suburban areas where Carabineros dispersed a march staged by young men who were leaving. At least half a dozen people were detained by the Carabineros.

Yesterday's political program started with the arrival of Zaldivar at the (Chacayuta) airport. Then Zaldivar toured the entire city. He visited the site where for the past 16 days the CNT has been holding a fast in solidarity with two of its leaders, who are being held in the penitentiary and are being prosecuted for alleged violations of the State Security Law. Zaldivar visited those leaders at the penitentiary and, at night, after the rally was over, attended a dinner held in his honor. Today Zaldivar is holding several meetings with the various echelons of his party and is scheduled to return to Santiago tomorrow noon. This is all. From Arica, a special report for the Diario de Cooperativa program. [end relay]

YOUNG POLITICIANS HOLD FIRST NATIONAL MEETING

PY251704 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Young representatives of various political parties have held their first national meeting at the Spanish Club in Santiago. According to (Miguel Salazar), this meeting was aimed at making the first contacts between young representatives of democratic political forces.

Andres Chadwick of the UDI [National Unity Youth Front Movement] pointed out that the (?MAN) [National Action Movement] and the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] are excluded from these meetings because they represent extremist political leanings.

The meeting was attended by youth leaders of the Independent Democratic Unity [Union Democratica Independiente], the Christian Democratic Party, and the Radical Party, among others.

HUMANIST PARTY MAKES FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE

PY262240 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 26 May 84

[Excerpt] Amid shouts, chants, and orange flags, the Chilean Humanist Party made its public appearance. During a press conference which was also the first public rally of this new political group, [word indistinct] that was not authorized by the office of the chief of the emergency state zone. The scheduled rally was held at the Cariola Theater on 23 May. The Chilean Humanist Party voiced its basic platform through its president, Jose Tomas Saenz.

PRESIDENT NAMES CEASE-FIRE VERIFICATION GROUP

PA301550 Paris AFP in Spanish 0221 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Bogota, 29 May (AFP) -- President Belisario Betancur today named the committee to verify the cease-fire agreement signed between the government and the main guerrilla movement of Colombia, which entered into effect Monday, 28 May.

The committee, made up of 40 members, 2 of them delegates of the communist Revolutionary Armed Forces-People's Army (FARC-EP), will be installed by the chief of state on Friday, 1 June, at the Narino Palace.

The appointment was contained in a letter addressed to the president of the Peace Commission, John Agudelo Rios, which notes that "Colombia needs to deepen its devotion to and desire for peace. Therefore, Colombia wants to see all its political groups carry out their activities freely, within the law and without appealing to violence."

Recognizing the efforts made by the organization headed by Agudelo, the letter states that the commission must contact other armed groups and reiterates the government's determination to seek peace "and create the objective and subjective circumstances to foster it, eliminating the disturbing factors, including corrosive social injustice in rural and urban sectors."

To facilitate the work of the committee, which will last 1 year, it was linked to the Interior Ministry, which will provide the necessary resources and cooperation to carry its members to those parts of the country where their presence may be required.

The new organization is made up of six members of the Peace Commission, four high commissioners for peace, the presidents and vice presidents of both legislative chambers, former ministers, industrialists, lawyers, clergymen, and parliamenterians of both political leanings, including the secretary general of the Communist Party, Gilberto Vieira.

It also includes the bishop of Pereira and secretary of CELAM (Latin American Bishops Conference), Msgr Dario Castrillon; journalists Lucy Nieto de Samper and Oscar Alarcon; the president of the Red Cross, Guillermo Rueda; a member of the Association of Democratic Jurists; and a member of the Permanent Committee for the Defense of Human Rights.

GOVERNMENT SIGNS DRUG ABUSE AGREEMENT WITH UN

PA310328 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Bogota -- The government today signed an agreement with the UN fund against drug abuse for $340 million, which will be dedicated to a program against drug use in Colombia.

The program will guarantee a public campaign, investigate the extent of drug use, prepare prevention campaigns, and organize the existing information on the subject.

The first national poll on drug use will be carried out in August, sponsored by the Health Ministry and the Pan American Health Organization.

JUDGE RECOGNIZES LIBERAL PARTY AUTHORITIES

PY282048 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 26 May 84 p 13

[Excerpt] Civil Judge Jose de la Cruz Jara yesterday decided to uphold, with expenses, a plea requesting the judicial recognition of the legitimacy of the Liberal Party's executive board presided over by Dr Joaquin Atilio Burgos. The plea was filed against Dr Fulvio Hugo Celauro and the members of his executive board. The judge's decision states: "It is hereby declared that the legal authority of the Liberal Party is the executive board made up of the following members: President: Dr Joaquin Atilio Burgoa; Standing members: Andres Barboza, Rufino Bobadilla, Bonifacio Bordon Soto, Emerenciano Cabello, Tadeo Centurion Sostoa, Marcelino Concha Garcia, Luis Coronel, Carlos Ferreira Ibarra, Adolfo Fernandez, Juan Ignacio Flores, Carlos Flores Peralta, Cesar Garcia Arce, Felix Guerreno Chena, Julio Cesar Ibarrola, Emigdio Montania Orue, Fausto Ribeiro, Fidel Ruiz Bruquetti, Julia Saldivar, Primo Segovia, Zoilo Valdez, Serviliano Alonso Peralta, Camilo J. Melot Rodas, Emilio Vallejos Chenu, Augusto Caceres Carissimo, Antonio Ocampos Caballero, Alberto Varessini Closa, Agustin Corrales, Isidoro Gonzalez Doldan, Francisco Sanabria, Nicasio Miranda, Ricardo Aguiar, Carlos M. Dias de Bedoya, Ramon Martinez, Bernardo Arias Diaz, and Raul A. Martinez; Alternate members: Eulogia R. Fernandez, Guido Alex Ferreira, Isabelino Ramon Godoy, Manuel E. Garcia Roig, Nestor Delvalle Romero, Alejandrino Araco, Esteban Barrios, Leonardo E. Alvarenga, Icorgina Adorno Cataldi, Ovidio Prieto, Romildo L. Martinez, and Liz Regina Cristaldo.

LAINO SCORES PRESENCE OF MENGELE, RICORD

PY262345 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1153 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Resistencia, 26 May (DYN) -- Domingo Laino, the exiled leader of the Paraguayan Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA], denounced in Resistencia the fact that the Nazi murderer Jozef Mengele "is continuing to live in Asuncion under the protection of Alfredo Stroessner's regime."

Laino added that "the dictatorial Paraguayan Government concentrates in harassing good citizens, as in my case, but it grants protection to international delinquents such as the murderer Mengele and the king of drugs August Ricord."

Laino, who is forcibly absent from Paraguay, spoke yesterday before over 200 persons during a rally that the Argentine Radical Party organized in Resistencia to celebrate the anniversary of the May revolution.

Further on in his speech, Laino harshly condemned the attitude of the Chaco Province Government for having invited Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner to participate in the official ceremonies on 25 May.

Laino also condemned the presence of Paraguayan Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro in Resistencia. Montanaro represented Stroessner in the celebrations of this national holiday.

MINISTER ANNOUNCES CAPTURE OF TERRORIST COMMAND

PY290346 Paris AFP in Spanish 2325 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Lima, 18 May (AFP) -- Interior Minister Luis Percovich today announced the capture of the terrorist commando which on 1 May blew up a section of the oil pipeline going from the Amazon forest to the Pacific coast. The minister reported that the group was made up of three men and two women and that it was associated with Shining Path. Arms, dynamite, and propaganda material were taken from them. The pipeline had been blown up at the point where it begins to climb the Andean mountains. A 7-meter segment of pipeline blew away and the pumping of crude oil to the port of Bayobar was interrupted for 5 days. Through this pipeline flow 115,000 barrels of oil per day. Minister Percovich did not reveal where the commando group was captured, although he mentioned that the same group had been involved in other terrorist acts in the zone of Jaen, some 1,000 km northeast of Lima.

UNITED LEFT WORKING ON 1985 PRESIDENTIAL TICKET

PY301707 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0430 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpts] Deputy Antonio Meza Cuadra has said that he respects Dr Barrantes, but that he does not regard the latter as an arbiter to decide what group is to bear the name "Jose Carlos Mariategui" in a political organization.

[Begin recording] [Meza Cuadra] I believe that Dr Barrantes' opinion is very respectable, but I think that he is not the arbiter to decide who is or who is not to use [the name Jose Carlos Mariategui]. I think that it is earned through commitment and responsibility, and even through the formality of registering an organization as our organization did.

[Unidentified reporter] Who do you think will be the United Left (IU) candidates for the 1985 presidential ticket?

[Meza Cuadra] As far as we understand it, they will be our Companero Alfonso Barrantes, for whom we have great respect since we also gave him our support when he sought the Lima mayoralty. He has practically been nominated by acclamation as the IU presidential candidate. [end recording]

Victor Raul Haya de la Torre's nephew today said in Congress that the IU presidential ticket for the 1985 elections should be made up of Barrantes, Javier Diez Canseco, and Jorge del Prado.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What do you think should be the IU presidential ticket?

[Answer] Well, in the case of the UDP [Popular Democratic Union] we have an agreement that says that those who should run are: Companero Barrantes for president; Companero Diez Canseco for first vice president; and Companero Jorge del Prado, [for second vice president], thus completing the presidential ticket. This a proposal that we will make during the IU national convention, which is to be held in the next few monghs. [end recording]

ELECTORAL COURT DISCLOSES ELECTION REGULATIONS

PY270030 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] The Electoral Court has disclosed the number of signatures required to be submitted by 27 August, 1o84, to nominate candidates for the upcoming national elections. The court headed by (Nicolas Estoraquia Rosa) disclosed that 8,321 signatures are required to register names for presidential and senatorial candidates.

The number of signatures required for candidates for intendants vary according to the department. These are the requirements: Montevideo, 3,525; Canelones, 850; Maldonado, 228; Rocha, 213; Treinta y Tres Orientales, 163; Cerro Largo, 252; Rivera, 260; Artigas, 169; Salto, 310; Paysandu, 283; Rio Negro, 140; Soriano, 273; Colonia, 278; San Jose, 263; Flores, 96; Florida, 220; Durazno, 186; La Valleja, 237; and Tacuarembo, 275.

The following numbers of signatures are needed in each department to register candidates for the Chamber of Representatives, the departmental councils, and the electoral councils in each department: Montevideo, 2,115; Canelones, 510; Maldonado, 137; Rocha, 128; Treinta y Tres Orientales, 8; Cerro Largo, 152; Rivera, 156; Artigas, 102; Salto, 186; Paysandu, 170; Rio Negro, 84; Soriano, 164; Colonia, 227; San Jose, 158; Flores, 58; Florida, 137; Durazno, 112; La Valleja, 142, and Tacuarembo, 165.

It has also been reported that the national and departmental party organizations will report to the Electoral Court and the electoral councils within 5 days after the meeting of their delegates the nominated formulas and list of candidates and the subdivisions [sublemas] which have been authorized. It has also been reported that these organizations will have until 27 August to register the formulas and lists of candidates to elective public posts nominated by the national and departmental conventions.

These organizations must submit to the Electoral Court the list of candidates for president and vice president and the list of candidates and alternate candidates for the Senate, indicating in this case the subdivisions which have been authorized and the system for alternate candidates. The Electoral Court must also receive the list of candidates for municipal intendants and alternate intendants and the list of candidates and alternate candidates for the Chamber of Representatives, departmental councils, and electoral councils, indicating the subdivisions which have been authorized, the system for alternate candidates, and the numbers and letters to be used to distinguish their voting sheets.

It was also reported that 27 August will be the deadline for submitting to the registry the list of candidates for elective public posts backed by signatures.

PARTIES TO FAVOR JOINT MOBILIZATION MEASURES

PY301911 Paris AFP in Spanish 1259 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, 30 May (AFP) -- At a meeting that ended today, at dawn, the intra-party group that comprises both proscribed and permitted political organizations in Uruguay decided to favor joint popular mobilization measures. The meeting also agreed to offer participation to the social, labor, and business forces in such activities, as a way to open the road toward democracy.

During the meeting, at which representatives of the traditional National or Blanco Party, the Colorado Party, the minority Civic Union, and the proscribed Leftist Broad Front were present, the draft document, prepared by the Armed Forces with the intention to modify the Constitution, was analyzed. The participants recalled that Uruguay will hold general elections on 25 November, and that reform of the Constitution is seen as one of the most difficult obstacles to the holding of elections after 11 years of military government.

It has been learned that the political parties will communicate to the military their joint position, which will be contained in a document to be released in a few days.

The intraparty group agreed last week to act in a united way after a period of disagreements especially caused by arguments between Blancos and Colorados.

COLORADO LEADER INTERROGATED BY MILITARY COURTS

PY310146 Paris AFP in Spanish 2327 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 30 May (AFP) -- Victor Vaillant, a leader of the centrist Colorado Party of Uruguay, today told AFP that he had been interrogated by the military courts for having published an article in which he terms as monsters those who kill, shackle, and torture. Vaillant who belongs to the leftist sector of his party, published a column on 3 May in the weekly SEMANARIO of Montevideo in which he referred to the death of Doctor Vladimir Roslik, who died while under detention in a military unit.

CONVICCION was definitively closed by the military government for having published in the same issue an interview with Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, the proscribed leader of the National Party, who is currently living in exile in Buenos Aires. On that occasion, Vaillant wrote that if the guilt of those monsters who kill, shackle, and torture is the guilt and torment of the society that has created them, then our fearful silence is also a guilty accomplice that we cannot continue to bear without definitely losing our condition as human beings.

Vaillant also indicated that during the interrogation he was asked several times to specify to whom he was referring when he talked about monsters and his answer was: all those who kill, shackle, and torture.

OVER 1,000 MARCH IN MONTEVIDEO FOR MISSING

PY262315 Paris AFP in Spanish 0232 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Montevideo, 25 May (AFP) -- Over 1,000 people today staged a short peaceful march along Montevideo's main thoroughfare. This march was called by the organization of mothers and relatives of the indictees of the military courts seeking an immediate and unrestricted general amnesty and respect for human rights. This march was scheduled as part of the celebrations held during the week of the missing persons. It was scheduled for the year of the struggle against forced disappearances, organized by the Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Political Prisoners, a nongovernment organization of the Latin American and Caribbean countries which is headquartered in Caracas.

After marching for three blocks, clapping hands, and chanting antigovernment slogans and demanding freedom for the inmates who are imprisoned for struggling, the demonstrators were stopped by police deployed a few meters away from Libertad Square in downtown Montevideo and dispersed without incidents.

U.S. COURT DECISION ON COSTA RICAN DEBT NOTED

PY240230 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 12 May 84 p 4

[Editorial: "The 'Costa Rican' Case"]

[Text] Not all the news coming from New York, the central financial marketplace, is depressing and discouraging. Although the increase in interest rates caused by the vigorous U.S. recovery and the strong presence of the U.S. Government in the capital market bodes ill for countries with hefty foreign debt in dollars, a case that is unfolding in a New York court may yet set very interesting precedents.

A small U.S. bank is suing Costa Rica before the New York bar for failing to pay less than $5 million in debt on the date it fell due. To everyone's surprise, the judge ruled that there was not a delinquent debt because the decision not to pay was intended to work out a general agreement for restructuring the Costa Rican debt with all the creditor banks. To back his decision the judge resorted to precedents in case law citing a ruling 150 years old referring to a Canadian railroad company in similar circumstances.

The sentence is yet to be appealed, but if U.S. courts always protect debtor countries when a "reasonable" agreement is sought with creditors, they are offering a spectrum of possibilities which are both unexpected and encouraging. Although the ruling refers only to loans by U.S. creditors subject to U.S. court jurisdiction, the question of debts and the forms of financing them could be transformed into a green pasture for lawyers and into a nightmare for bankers. However, the other side of the coin might be that the access to the so-called fresh lines of credits should become more difficult.

Nevertheless, this new option convinces, especially the countries of origin of the creditor institutions, that the problem of the staggering debt of the Third World overruns is more than merely banking business and lender-borrower bilateral relations. Because of its volume and consequences, this problem is moving into the political arena. The problem will therefore demand a concerted multilateral solution, with the direct participation of the government, just as the debtors request.

PEMEX DIRECTOR ON MARKET RESPONSE TO GULF STRIFE

FL310122 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2323 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 30 May (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex Director Mario Ramon Beteta today said that in an emergency situation in the Persian Gulf, Mexico should coordinate with the other countries to increase oil production in accordance with the situation. In an interview that he gave to the journalists group known as 20 women and 1 man, he pointed out that whoever has strategic petroleum reserves can use them, but international petroleum prices cannot be set in a hasty or irresponsible way. He added that countries should not speculate with the price of crude petroleum but should contribute to stability and plan for the short-term future to avoid the risk of upsetting the market.

DEPUTY: OIL PRICE INCREASE POSSIBLE AT ANY TIME

FL301800 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0020 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Mexico City, 29 May (NOTIMEX) -- The possibility of raising the price of Mexican crude oil is gaining strength and could be decreed anytime soon, Hermenegildo Anguiano, president of the Chamber of Deputies Energy Committee, has asserted. He noted that the increases to the prices of crude, raising the price of the Maya type to $25 and the Isthmus to $30, will make it possible for the country to face up to the foreign debt interest commitments. Likewise, he said the situation prevailing in the Middle East, because of the Iran-Iraq war, could benefit Mexico's position of raising the price of crude anytime soon. The official added that the increase in the price of crude is not being made on our own, but rather acting in agreement with other crude exporting countries.

GDR FOREIGN MINISTER ON 3-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT

FL292122 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2010 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Mexico City, 29 May (NOTIMEX) -- East German Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer has said here that it is important to find the way to detente and international cooperation.

The GDR foreign minister, upon his arrival in Mexico for a 3-day official visit, confirmed his country's position that the United States and the Soviet Union should renounce the use of force as was proposed in the recent meeting of the Warsaw Pact countries.

He added that because of the danger enveloping the world today, it is necessary for someone to use common sense, and, with realism and insight, find a way to detente. He also said that the Warsaw Pact supports the cultivation of peaceful and prosperous relations among peoples.

Fischer expressed support for the call of the four continents [el llamado de los cuatro continentes] and said that it should be taken seriously because it is a suitable path to international peace. He expressed confidence that Mexico and the GDR could actively participate in dealing with the world situation.

After saying that dialogue is an important instrument for international coexistence and the coming together of peoples, he added that although relations between his country and Mexico are excellent, the GDR Government is interested in improving them to the maximum degree possible.

Fischer Discusses C.A.

FL301944 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0300 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 29 May (NOTIMEX) -- GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer today said in Mexico City thtat imperialism's hopes -- which threaten peace as it imposes its self-interested aspirations of domination through the use of nuclear power -- are not limited to threats, as the deployment of missiles in Western Europe proves. At a dinner held by Mexico's Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda for the GDR minister, Fischer said imperialism's hopes of imposing domination by using nuclear power threaten peace, mankind's well-being, and the indispensable prerequisite of allowing normal relations between nations to prosper. Fischer said Mexico and the GDR hold identical or similar views on important international matters, such as the safeguarding of peace, the need for disarmament, and the elimination of colonialism, racism, and apartheid.

Fischer said that since his last visit to Mexico, many aspects of Latin America had changed, such as showing a determination to defend and uphold national dignity and guaranteed rights. He added that the democratic nations of Latin America had vigorously raised their voices against increasing attempts at political blackmail, economic harm, and military threats. He said the GDR extended its friendship and respect to the Central American struggle, exemplified by the ideas of freedom proclaimed by Latin American heroes, such as Simon Bolivar and Benito Jaurez. Fischer added that the GDR fully respects the Contadora Group's efforts -- in which Mexico plays a prominent role -- aimed at searching for peaceful solutions to and normalization of Central America's conflicts. And, he said, the GDR categorically condemns all foreign attempts of intervention in the domestic affairs of any nation.

Sepulveda, Fischer on C.A.

FL301853 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1735 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Mexico City, 30 May (NOTIMEX) -- The process of the negotiations of the Contadora Group is split between the existence and nonexistence of a will of conciliation and coexistence which will determine the future of Central American countries, Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor has warned. During the dinner he hosted for his GDR counterpart, Oskar Fischer, who is paying a 3-day official visit to Mexico, Sepulveda Amor added that the Central American governments should be the first to establish the conditions for peace, because their participation is an unquestionable factor. The Central American conflicts constitute a vivid example of the prices and obstacles imposed by history, the international economic system, political intolerance, and the ideological struggle, together with the crisis that today threatens the alteration of the stability and security of the entire region, the Mexican foreign secretary stated. It is highly satisfactory that countries such as the GDR and Mexico agree on reaffirming their pacifist will and determined effort to contribute to international understanding and detente, Sepulveda Amor said.

GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer noted that in recent years Latin America's image has changed in many ways, but above all in those where it had to raise its voice against the growing attempts aimed at blackmailing it politically, harming it economically, and threatening it militarily. Fischer expressed his country's sympathy and respect for the struggle of Central American countries, and voiced solidarity with Nicaragua which, with great selflessness, defends its gains against hired invaders. Likewise, he recognized Mexico's aid to Nicaragua since the beginning of the revolutionary process.

ARDITO BARLETTA SPEAKS AT CREDENTIALS CEREMONY

PA301658 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1530 GMT 30 May 84

[Speech by President-elect Nicolas Ardito Barletta on receiving his presidential credentials from the Electoral Tribunal, at a ceremony at Justo Arosemena Palace in Panama City -- live]

[Text] Mr President and members of the Electoral Tribunal, Mr Vice President of the Republic, Mr President of the National Assembly of Representatives, Mr President of the National Vote Counting Board, Messrs Ministers of State, distinguished members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Panama, ladies and gentlemen:

I wish to express my profound gratitude to the magistrates of the Electoral Tribunal for inviting us to this ceremony. This presentation of credentials is an important step in the process of democratic change that we are engaged in by the will of all Panamanians. The credentials that we are honored to receive today represent the legitimate will of a majority of the voters, who voted with parties of the National Democratic Union [UNADE] for president, vice presidents, and legislators.

Above all, on this solemn occasion I wish to express my recognition to all Panamanian people for their civic, democratic, and responsible behavior during the recent elections. Our people have once again demonstrated their nobility, their generosity, and their fervent desire to find specific solutions to their problems peacefully, through general participation, and by means of our country's democratic institutions.

I am especially grateful to those fellow countrymen who voted with UNADE for president, vice presidents, and legislators because they believed in us, in our platform, and in our offer of a constructive change for the country. [applause]

We are grateful for the conviction, the participation, and the enthusiasm displayed by so many friends and fellow party members, who made an extraordinary effort during the short but intense campaign that led to victory at the polls. We are especially grateful to the Popular Broad Front Party, the Panamenist Party, the Liberal Party, the Republic Party, the Labor Party, the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], [applause] and the national independent movement, among others, for accompanying us during this election.

The PRD proved to represent a broad sector of the Panamanian people. Wherever the spirit of its founder, General Omar Torrijos Herrera, [applause] may be, he must be satisfied with this party and with its legacy of dedication to the causes of our people's overall development and the consolidation of our national independence. [applause]

We have a special greeting for the friendly countries represented here with such dignity by the diplomatic corps, for their recognition of our elections and their results.

To the Electoral Tribunal, especially its president and members, we express our broad recognition, because they have performed an extraordinary task, fulfilling a huge task with responsible serenity amid the political passions naturally generated by a popular election as closely run as this one. The general recognition and gratitude goes to them. [applause]

Above all, all this has been possible due to the civic and sensible behavior displayed by the vast majority of Panamanians, who prefer peace and prudence to violence.

On this solemn occasion, I wish to reiterate our solemn desire to fulfill our commitments to the Panamanian people. We will dedicate all our efforts to strengthening the process of democratization that we Panamanians are intent on bringing about. We will implement the constructive change that our country requires at this difficult historic juncture. We will work tirelessly,with imagination, and with respect and tolerance for the opinions held and actions carried out by all, within the framework of the Constitution and the laws, and the interplay inherent to our democratic system.

We will continue to foster honest dialogue on our problems, aspirations, and the actions that we will carry out in order to fulfill these aspirations of the Panamanian people. We will defend our national independence and our social peace above all else. We will enact our platform to support social development, reactivate the national economy, maintain an efficient and honest public administration, and contribute to regional peace and international development.

In a few days, I will invite the people to form working groups in which many sectors will participate in order to discuss the main concepts of our platform, study our problems, and recommend solutions for the following areas: investment and creation of jobs; government and public administration; social well-being and security; culture and education; foreign policy; and provincial matters.

During a large rally at 5 de Mayo Square on 4 May, we made some promises and extended an invitation that we reiterate today: We invite Panamanians to work together for the good of the country; we invite Panamanians to begin a new era for Panama characterized by national reconciliation, to confront and attack the causes of the economic crisis that hampers our development and endangers our social peace.

I hereby reiterate this invitation to the entire country -- those who voted, those who didn't, those who did vote for me and those who voted for our opponents -- because the homeland is all of us and is for all of us. [applause]

We extend special recognition to President Jorge Illueca and his administration. We wish him success in his office in the coming months and offer him our support so that he can complete successfully an important period of democratic transition in national affairs. [applause]

We also extend special recognition to that part of the national government made up of the Defense Forces -- for their professionalism and because they made good their promise of a peaceful democratization throughout the country and to their sense of responsibility during the elections. To its commander, General Noriega, its officers, and troops, our recognition. [applause]

I hereby make an appeal for national conciliation, an invitation which we made recently. I will work at all times to be the president of all Panamanians because of the genuineness of the mandate I have received today, formalized before law with this ceremony and my firm willingness to do my duty.

I hereby exhort all Panamanians to unite in good-faith participation in the face of domestic crises and foreign threats, in order to take the country along a path of peace, development, independence, freedom, and justice we all long for.

We respect the mandate received from those who voted for UNADE and chose the platform we presented to the country as a guide in the development efforts we will carry out during the next 5 years. We respect as well those voters who chose a different candidate. We invite them to work constructively through the positive changes that our country longs for with the participation of all Panamanians.

I hereby commit my entire devotion, honor, and life to the country in order to fulfill this mandate and support the national effort that starts a new era of peace and progress for all. [applause]

We invoke God's help and blessing that we will do His will in Panama for the promotion of the Panamanian people. In this manner, we will move forward, remembering that with work and good will, important achievements can be attained for the benefit of the nation and with the participation of all Panamanians. Thank you very much. [applause]

CREDENTIALS CEREMONY ACCOMPANIED BY VIOLENCE

Vehicles Burned

PA301838 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1749 GMT 30 May 84

[Report by Aris de Icaza]

[Excerpt] There is much concern at this point because shortly after the country and the rest of the world learned that President-elect Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta and his two vice presidents had received their credentials between 1030 and 1100 today, disturbances have been taking place on Balboa Avenue, where several private vehicles have been stoned and others have been set on fire.

One of the vehicles was a bus owned by the Civil Aeronautics Directorate. We have contacted Civil Aeronautics Director Cesar Rodriguez to find out the truth about these reports, as we have also been told that a person was injured and this worries us very much.

Dr Rodriguez, what is the truth about the information we are receiving here?

[Rodriguez] One of the buses that takes employees to the Omar Torrijos Herrera Airport was intercepted by a group of people who were posted near the Metro Theater. They fired six shots at the bus and made the driver get out. They intimidated him by pointing a gun at him and told him to leave the key in the ignition. The bus was set on fire and has been practically destroyed.

Many Wounded in Cross Fire

PA301903 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1844 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpts] Panama City, 30 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- Several dozen persons were wounded during a shootout between the national guard and demonstrators while President-elect Ardito Barletta received his official credentials.

Opposition candidate Arnulfo Arias Madrid's followers organized the demonstration. The 83-year-old Arias says a fraudulent tally of the votes snatched the presidency away from him.

The national guard was called when the demonstrators overturned a bus and set it afire. Many of the passengers, approximately 50, were stoned and injured when they fled. Some of them had bullet wounds, although none are reported in critical condition. A national guard spokesman later said that the demonstration had ended and order had been reestablished. The demonstration was organized in front of Arias' offices,

6 Wounded, 20 Arrested

PA302158 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2111 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Panama City, 30 May (ACAN-EFE) -- A spokesman for the Panamanian National Defense Forces told ACAN-EFE that during today's disturbance 20 persons were arrested and 6 persons slightly injured.

According to the Defense Forces, (army and police) anti-riot forces were called in after tens of demonstrators of the Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADO) burned a bus and stopped traffic on the main avenue of this capital city.

ADO's protest over what it describes as an "electoral fraud" took place at the moment when the Electoral Tribunal was presenting credentials to economist Nicolas Ardito Barletta, confirming him as the country's president for a 5-year period.

According to the Electoral Tribunal, Aridto Barletta, 45 years old, defeated ADO candidate Arnulfo Arias by 1,713 votes in the 6 May election.

Riot Units Raid ADO Offices

PA310154 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0122 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Panama City, 30 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Riot control units today raided the headquarters of the Democratic Opposition Alliance, ADO. Eyewitnesses reported that the units caused serious damage to the installations.

ADO spokesman stated that the police entered "without any justification" and that after beating persons who were present they destroyed the offices and made "many arrests."

The Panama Defense Forces told ACAN-EFE that the agents intervened after dozens of ADO demonstrators, who were protesting an alleged "electoral fraud," burned a bus and obstructed traffic in front of the ADO offices, which are located on one of Panama City's main avenues.

The incidents took place while Panamanian President-elect Nicolas Ardito Barletta, 45, was receiving his credentials at the Legislative Palace.

A Defense Forces spokesman told ACAN-EFE that 20 arrests and 6 minor injuries were reported as a result of the riots.

ADO sources have estimated that the police intervention resulted in $50,000 in property damage.

PAPO DENOUNCES RECENT 'ELECTORAL FRAUD'

PA300450 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 May 84 p 10A

["Manifesto to the country from the Popular Action Party, PAPO," issued in Panama City; no date given]

[Excerpts] The PAPO regrets to announce that all of its predictions about the country's political future have come true. We warned that without the prior achievement of democracy, the quest for power would be fruitless. We advocated a constituent assembly that would draft a democratic and respectable charter with the consensus of all Panamanians; yet the political sectors did not give it the necessary support to become a reality. We opposed the constitutional amendments on the grounds that they did not seek to return to democracy but rather to confuse and deflate the growing popular opposition to the regime. We argued that, contrary to what their proponents were saying, the amendments constitutionally strengthened the military regime.

The PAPO, considering that all of its predictions have come true and that the will of the majority of the people has been thwarted by the government, while condemning the immoral actions of those who are responsible for the electoral fraud, publicly announces that it intends to continue the fight, side by side with all honest Panamanians, to achieve a decent society and a democratic government. Therefore, it is necessary to carry out a peaceful civic struggle that can lead, as our number one objective, to compliance with the will of the majority of the Panamaian electorate.

If the brute force that has ruled Panama since 1968 sheds blood to impose its will over civic protest, the only alternative, in the present circumstances, is to strive for a constituent assembly that will allow us to have democratic and honest institutions, guaranteeing civilized coexistence among Panamanians.

The PAPO again protests the electoral crimes that were committed, and the victory of immorality over decency, and wants to go on record as condemning the criminal conduct of the perpetrators and beneficiaries of that electoral fraud.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT ASKS NICARAGUA TO PAY TRADE DEBT

PA300458 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 May 84

[All figures as heard]

[Excerpts] The Costa Rican Government has urged the Nicaraguan Government to bring its debt up to date. Nicaraguan Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez was asked to expedite the payment of his country's debt to our country at a meeting at the Presidential House with Acting President Alberto Fait. After the meeting, Fait said that he is making the necessary efforts to ensure that Nicaragua settles its debts to Costa Rica, as it has been determined that the Nicaraguan authorities are willing to make an equal effort. Martinez met yesterday with Odalier Villalobos, economy and commerce minister; and Francisco Morales, agriculture and livestock minister. He met also with Central Bank President Marco Antonio Lopez to search for a solution to the problem of documenting and beginning payments on the debt.

The acting president said that Nicaragua's foreign debt cannot go on increasing [words indistinct] circumstances because the debt includes a hefty $80 million that is not documented. The total debt is $150 million and it cannot go on climbing, he said.

Yesterday afternoon, Nicaragua delivered a proposal to the Central Bank for paying its trade debt to Costa Rica of $170 million. The Nicaraguan official told Lopez that Nicaragua cannot meet the debt because it lacks foreign exchange, the result of the deterioration in its economy as a result of the war. Lopez and Martinez agreed that Nicaragua will pay $1 million per month on the debt as of yesterday. The Costa Rican Central Bank president also said that Costa Rica will limit its exports to Nicaragua to $1 million and that they will be handled through the Clearing House [Camara de Compensacion]; that is, they will be paid for in cash. Moreover, our country's imports from Nicaragua will be paid for with electricity, and if there is any balance in Nicaragua's favor at the end of the year it will be applied to its debt.

The Nicaraguan foreign trade minister promised Lopez that he will formally submit the proposal in writing within the next few days. In addition, the Central Bank president said that the debt will have to be documented, because only $103 million of the total $170 million is currently documented. Lopez said that Nicaragua's position is acceptable and represents an act of good faith by its authorities with regard to its debt to Costa Rica.

SECURITY EXPERTS DISCOVER 'ESPIONAGE RING'

PA300401 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] As Radio Reloj has reported, security experts have determined through an exhaustive investigation that there is an international espionage ring in our country, directed by two Salvadorans and a Colombian. It has been learned that this vast network, which stretches from Puerto Soley on the Pacific coast to the Atlantic area and runs through San Carlos and other places regarded as trouble spots, has sophisticated communications equipment. The government already knows about the situation and is now trying to assess the consequences of the espionage, which involves [word indistinct] of international communism [words indistinct] official organizations in our country.

MINISTRY TO INVESTIGATE 'PARAMILITARY GROUP'

PA300421 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] The Public Security Ministry is investigating the existence of a paramilitary group that is apparently legally registered as an association in the northern part of the country. Presidential Deputy Minister Manuel Carvallo Quintana said that charges against the organization, called the North (Huetar) Democratic Association, were made over a week ago at the National Security Council by several labor and peasant organizations. According to these organizations, the paramilitary group supplies weapons to wealthy landowners in the area and its members threaten the peasants' security. The presidential deputy minister announced that the group's activities will be thoroughly investigated, to determine if they possess weapons, and if so, what sort. The authorities will also investigate the procedures by which the group gained legal status. If the charges made at the Security Council prove true, the authorities will take drastic action, including the cancellation of the association's legal status, because the existence of private armies in the country cannot be permitted, the presidential official explained.

OPPOSITION SEES NEUTRALITY POLICY THREATENED

PA292207 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Madrid -- Two members of Costa Rica's opposition expressed concern yesterday in Madrid that the United States has (?said) enough with Honduras and will now try to arm Costa Rica. Socialist leaders (Orlando Rojas) and (Willima Rewin) told the EFE news agency that President Monge's official visit to Spain, which begins today, will be very helpful in getting European support for his effort to maintain his country's neutrality policy. In their view, this neutrality is being seriously threatened by the internal pressures exerted by certain factions within the National Liberation Party, by several members of President Monge's administration, and particularly by U.S. interests in the area.

NEW PVP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTED TO REGISTRY

PA291954 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 22 May 84 p 6-A

[Text] Civil Registry Director Rafael Villegas yesterday registered the new Executive Committee of the Peoples Vanguard Party (PVP), which will be presided over by Humberto Vargas Carbonell. Arnoldo Ferreto is secretary and Francisco Gamboa is treasurer. This resolution, which adopts the agreements made at a PVP assembly which took place 8 April, removes Manuel Mora Valverde [former PVP secretary general] from the party's leadership before the electoral bodies.

EL SALVADOR

STATION ANNOUNCES NAMES OF NEW CABINET MEMBERS

PA302134 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora 1700 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Attention listeners of Radio Cadena Sonora: In a way that we may call official, a top leader of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] ... [changes thought] we will now give you the list of ministers who will hold posts in Jose Napoleon Duarte's cabinet.

Attention, Cadena Sonora has an exclusive report on the names of those who have been confirmed as ministers in the Duarte government, which will be inaugurated on 1 June.

Minister of the Presidency	Adolfo Rey Prendes
Minister of Defense and Public Security	General Eugenio Vides Casanova
Minister of Planning	Eduardo Tenorio, former treasury minister
Minister of Treasury	Ricardo J. Lopez, current president of the Salvadoran Red Cross
Minister of Economy	Ricardo Gonzalez Camacho
Minister of Public Health and Social Welfare	Benjamin Valdez
Minister of Public Works	Ramon Ernesto Rodriguez, current under secretary of education
Minister of Foreign Trade	Manuel Morales Ehrlich

The names of the justice, agriculture and livestock, and foreign trade [as heard] ministers are still to be disclosed. Our official PDC informant told us this afternoon that they will be confirmed in their posts so that they can be sworn in on 1 June when Duarte is sworn in.

Regarding the Education Ministry, Alberto Buendia Flores, who was a PDC deputy at the Assembly, will be appointed education minister. The deputy education minister will be Carlos Cruz Avalos. The deputy minister of culture, youth, and sports will be (Osmin Magana). The posts of the deputy minister for literacy [vice ministro de alfabetizacion] has been created. This post will be held by (Dinora de Michel). These are the posts confirmed by Cadena Sonora with reliable PDC sources.

MAGANA ON COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE DEATH SQUADS

PA302113 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 May 84

[Report by Raul Beltran]

[Text] We will now present declarations made by Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana at the Ramon Belloso Battalion barracks, where the battalion's second anniversary was commemorated at noon today. Mr President, we would like to know about the information published by THE NEW YORK TIMES and particularly by THE WASHINGTON POST regarding your government's having organized a special commission trained to investigate the political crimes committed in El Salvador, as well as the operation of the death squads.

[Begin recording] [Magana] You read THE WASHINGTON POST faster than I do, because I did not know of this report. [laughter] We have been making this effort for about 9 months. The plan is almost complete. It will be up to the new government to issue a decree creating the commission. As for the commission's being trained, I don't have any information. The commission's activities will be very important. The commission's scope and responsibility will be up to the new government.

[Beltran] On the military order...?

[Magana] I don't know anything about it. [end recording]

After the short statements by President Magana, it has been confirmed that this commission has been in the planning stage for about 9 months, as has been stated by President Magana. The commission, however, will be fully implemented by the new government to be presided over by Jose Napoleon Duarte, who will assume office next Friday, 1 June. Of course, the commission will also investigate the operation of the death squads, political crimes committed in the country, and particularly the murder of San Salvador Archbishop Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero. We also want to report that the government cabinet of President-elect Duarte and Vice President-elect Rodolfo Castillo Claramount for the next 5 years will be announced early tomorrow, Thursday.

MONTERROSA ON SITUATION IN EAST, RECRUITMENT

PA301445 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] The military situation in eastern El Salvador is completely normal, Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, commander of the 3d Infantry Brigade of San Miguel, told YSU today.

[Begin Monterrosa recording] The military situation in eastern El Salvador is quite calm right now. There have been no significant developments. The troops are performing their different tasks. There have been no important clashes so far. The troops are working in northern and central San Miguel, in the areas of Chinameca, Jucuapa, and El Pacayal. There has been absolutely no action in El Pacayal. The troops are patrolling that area. It is possible to establish communication with them because there are no problems. If there were any, the communication would be interrupted. I can also report that our troops are working in northern La Union, near Nueva Esparta and Poloros and they have reported no clashes. The units patrolling in Morazan are also working in their areas: in Cacahuatique, El Tablon, north of Sociedad, near Corinto. In that last area there was a minor clash that was of no major importance. In the Jucuaran area we have the Arce Battalion patrolling that section. It reported a clash with a group of rebels 2 days ago. The Arce Battalion reported 2 wounded -- an officer and a soldier. They inflicted several casualties on the enemy and recovered some arms. However, yesterday and this morning we have no clashes to report. [end recording]

Asked about the statements by rebel spokesmen on a joint Honduran-Salvadoran-U.S. Army operation, Col Monterrosa said:

[Begin Monterrosa recording] That is absolutely false, at least I have no reports to that effect. I would be one of the first to know and to begin coordinating an operation of that nature. So far, we have made no preparations for any such action. I believe that the sick minds of those gentlemen who suffer from a persecution complex because of the crimes and wrongdoings that they are committing lead them to believe that the Armed Forces will go after them at any minute. I am not surprised by that self-inflicted alarm. [end recording]

On the guerrilla recruitment in northern San Miguel, Morazan, and La Union, Col Monterrosa said:

[Begin Monterrosa recording] Yes. This recruitment has continued to take place. It has diminished somewhat, but continues to take place. Specifically, yesterday they took 35 young boys 10 years old and older from the area of (Huatajiahual). They took them from the area between (Huatajiahual), [names indistinct] a bit to the north of there, where there are a few cantons.

A few units working out of Morazan have been after the terrorists who have been taking those boys. The parents and relatives of these boys have been quite alarmed. They reported the abductions with great concern. The Armed Forces immediately undertook a search operation which so far has been unsuccessful. [end recording]

The colonel also referred to the Army's recruitment in eastern El Salvador.

[Begin Monterrosa recording] I understand that there has indeed been some recruiting in Usulutan. However, the youths have only been called to serve. They have not been recruited by force, nor have there been any irregular situations. I understand the authorities called them into service. In eastern El Salvador things have changed a great deal. So far, we have no forceful recruitment. All those who have entered lately to fill vacancies and to make some replacements, have come voluntarily. Moreover, in northern El Salvador, many boys have signed up. The parents themselves prefer to turn their sons over to the Armed Forces than to the guerrillas. The parents receive no information from them and do not know when or where their sons might be killed. [end recording]

ITALIAN PAPER PREDICTS 'UNILATERAL' FMLN TRUCE

PA301510 Paris AFP in Spanish 1453 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Rome, 30 May (AFP) -- The Salvadoran FMLN might declare a unilateral truce next week, according to an article published today in the independent newspaper CORRIERE DELLA SERA. According to this morning newspaper, which is published in Milan, the truce would be the first result of the mediation between the new administration of Jose Napoleon Duarte and the Salvadoran guerrillas, initiated by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge during the second half of May. The members of the FDR, the guerrillas' political wing, and President Duarte have asked President Monge to mediate. The FDR regards Duarte as a "valid interlocutor" in the search for a peaceful solution to the country's problems, the paper indicated. Two weeks ago, FDR President Guillermo Ungo said in Rome that his organization was willing to hold a dialogue with Duarte's new gover ment but that the war would continue until true willingness to hold a dialogue was perceived.

MEMBERS OF PARAGUAY'S MOPOCO JOIN FMLN RANKS

PA310106 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 30 May 84 pp 2, 13

[Text] A communique disseminated by a terrorist organization has confirmed the presence of foreign mercenaries in the Salvadoran guerrillas' ranks. The Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO) has reported to the world that 122 men of the Virgilio Cataldi Brigade have joined the FMLN to participate in the liberation struggle being carried out by the Salvadoran people against imperialist aggression, according to the communique. The communique added: "This historical event is an indescribable demonstration of revolutionary fighting solidarity between two brother peoples, El Salvador and Paraguay, who want to break the chains of capitalistic exploitation to begin the construction of socialism.' The communique said: "United against extremist dictatorships and Washington's proconsuls, we Salvadorans and Paraguayans walk together on the shining path of final victory." The communique ended by prasing the "FMLN heroes" and "the liberation of the Paraguayan people." The communique was signed by Fidelio Chavez, commander in chief of the Virgilio Cataldi Brigade.

FPL ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON SUPERMARKET INCIDENT

PA290125 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 May 84

[By Rene Hurtado]

[Text] A few moments ago our press department received a communique issued by the Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Metropolitan Front of the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces, FPL, in which they declare that the biased statements published in the last few days by most of the local press were an attempt to cast a doubt on the militancy and revolutionary ability of the five heroic companeros who, after clashing with the enemy, were forced to seek refuge in the Tiempo supermarket. The Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Metropolitan Front offers the following reiteration and clarification:

As we have said before, the five members of the Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Metropolitan Front are members of one of this front's special select forces. At 0630 on Friday, 11 May, they were preparing to carry out the "Long Live the Heroes and Martyrs of the Working Class, In Face of the Yankee Intervention the People Will Win" revolutionary operation. While en route, they clashed with an enemy military convoy near Venezuela Boulevard and were forced to withdraw into the supermarket.

The communique released by the Clara Elizabeth Ramurez Metropolitan Front received at Radio Cadena Sonora goes on to say that the FPL's Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Metropolitan Front wishes to confirm, before the Salvadoran people and the world's other peoples and governments, that the five companeros who were involved in this incident are members of one of the front's military groups and of the FPL. Their ability and militancy were demonstrated before the Salvadoran people and the world by their brave and proper revolutionary attitude, which they upheld at all times. This demonstrated their high fighting and revolutionary morale. The communique again praises the responsible attitude of the five companeros, who sought a political solution to the incident from the very outset, in an attempt to protect the lives of innocent bystanders. They therefore requested assistance from national and international humanitarian organizations and governments that work to guarantee and demonstrate deep respect for international law. This responsible attitude stood in stark constrast to the arrogant and irresponsible attitude of the enemy, who, at a specific moment [10-second break in transmission].

The FPL front's communique further declares that they publicly reiterate their morale and their militant support for their five companeros and that these five companeros are and will continue to be members of their beloved FPL organization, faithful to the FPL's principles and revolutionary strategies, which they shall never renounce. The communique adds that it is constant action in defense of proletarian interests that causes a real revolutionary to stand out.

This communique was issued by the FPL's Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Metropolitan Front, signed by the front's political directorate and dated 28 May 1984.

FARABUNDO MARTI: GUARDSMEN'S TRIAL 'SCREEN'

PA260415 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 25 May 84

[Excerpts] Another of hypocritical Duarte's demagogic maneuvers is in the open. Five National Guardsmen have been tried for the murder of four U.S. churchwomen, but that was nothing more than a screen to cover up and to protect the top officers who lead the death squads.

No one in El Salvador or in the United States itself can swallow this maneuver. Churchwomen's relatives and churchwomen from the Maryknoll Order have publicly refused to agree that the case is closed. The officials and officers who were involved in this incident have yet to be tried and punished. In addition, there are officials at the State Department and the Yankee Embassy in our country who are being protected by the Duarte administration and by the puppet dictatorship's corrupt and vicious judicial system. Duarte is a defender of nothing; Duarte is an abettor. This mock trial, which was vicious from the start, has been useless to Duarte; on the contrary, it has served only to more clearly expose the hypocritical and demagogic nature of his cover ups. Duarte does not defend the people's rights; he [word indistinct] and covers up the people's murderers. Duarte, you are a traitor and a recreant. Our people repudiate you and demand that you tell the truth about the crime against the four U.S. churchwomen.

VENCEREMOS: U.S. USING DUARTE FOR INTERVENTION

PA301339 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] The operation against Morazan Department in combination with the "Grenadier I" exercises is a direct step toward U.S. intervention in El Salvador. Reagan has moved quickly to use Duarte as a political instrument to justify stepping up the aggression. This is happening while Democratic Party sectors and U.S. public opinion are becoming excited, trusting that Duarte will be the key to a political solution to the conflict and the establishment of economic reform in El Salvador. Reagan has already put the cards over the table, making it clear for everyone that to him, the CIA, and the warmongering group in power, Duarte is the key to a military solution -- in other words, to imperialist intervention in our country. Before the elections, the FMLN had asserted that Reagan would support Duarte completely. After the elections, it was learned that the CIA had mounted an operation to create electoral fraud and turn Duarte into a winner. The FMLN has made it clear that all this has the sole objective of making Duarte the political instrument of intervention.

Now, before Duarte assumes office, the initial plans of this aggression are in a preliminary stage pending execution. But Reagan, the CIA, the Pentagon [words indistinct] should not make a mistake by believing that they will be able to march into Morazan with this operation and achieve a staggering victory that will pave the way for other aggressions. They will enter our country, but they will be defeated. The FMLN has not remained inactive, watching the electoral farce that would bring about intervention against our homeland. Quite the contrary. We have prepared ourselves, and we are ready to confront this intervention and defeat it. Duarte and the imperialist intervention have arrived late in our homeland. The FMLN is already a [word indistinct] force, supported by the people and familiar with every inch of the national territory. On this territory, the FMLN will defeat and expel its enemies in many ways. Morazan will be the stage for the first big defeat that the imperialist intervention will suffer in our homeland. Duarte will then appear in our history as a sad person who let himself play political puppet for imperialist aggression and genocide.

FARABUNDO MARTI ON U.S. MILITARY ADVISERS

PA302228 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpts] The Salvadoran military puppets kneel down to lick the boots of their imperialist masters. Without a trace of shame, puppets Defense Minister Vides Casanova, Under Secretary of Defense Rafael Flores Lima, and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Adolfo Onecifero Blandon paid tribute yesterday to Yankee Colonel Joseph Strachan, who until yesterday served as chief of the corps of U.S. military advisers in our country.

They decorated him with a gold medal in payment for violating our national sovereignty and trampling our homeland's interests. The Yankee advisers' increasing control of the puppet Army is becoming evident through the servility and docility displayed by the fascist high command, who forget [words indistinct] the Army officers have received from the Gringo advisers. Despite Vides Casanova's adulation, in his farewell speech, Col Strachan had to admit that the FMLN has the military initiative in this war. A puppet Army that lacks the capacity to curb an armed people must beg for aid from its masters and puppet allies. It was learned yesterday that another elite Salvadoran battalion had been organized in Puerto Castilla by the 160 Yankee Green Berets stationed at the military training base. Another 1,000 troops have been captured and taken by force to the garrisons. Today they are being forced to fight against their own people, under Yankee orders, especially those given by the corps of advisers directed by Col Strachan.

COMMUNIST PARTY COMMUNIQUE ON FOURTH PLENUM

PA302340 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Attention to all of the workers of the country, attention Salvadoran people. We will not read a communique from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of El Salvador [PCES], a member of the FMLN, on the occasion of the celebration of its fourth plenum in the heart of the territory controlled by our people.

The Central Committee of the PCES informs its militants, units, organizations, fighters, chiefs, and militiamen of the liberation armed forces, the FMLN's brother organizations, the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR], the Salvadoran people, and other people of the world about the realization of the Central Committee's plenum in one of the zones under the FMLN's control during the month of April 1984. The celebration of the PCES Central Committee plenum was preceded by important military and political victories by the FMLN-FDR within the framework of the popular revolutionary war, which resulted in great defeats and failures for the dictatorship's and the U.S. Government's political-military plans. The plenum of the PCES Central Committee studied in depth the national and international situation, the report by the general command of the FMLN on its latest meetings, the evaluation of the development and perspectives of the popular revolutionary war, the situation and participation of the PCES in the war, the development, tasks, and direction of the liberation armed forces in the immediate future, the international policies of the PCES, and other topics. Upon evaluating the development of the war and its perspectives, the PCES Central Committee plenum established the significant advances made by the FMLN as a real military force, its high level of effectiveness shown in the clashes against the puppet forces, thus increasing its theater of operations in three-fourths of the country's territory. The FMLN has developed as a real power in exercising political and military jurisdiction over more than one-third of the country, where control of the population is broadening, a new popular power is emerging and consolidating and is gradually developing in the deepest democratic feelings of the working masses and the small- and medium-sized landowners in the city and country.

While the revolutionary forces advance and their degree of coordination and cooperation is increased and consolidated, the dictatorship's forces stall at every defeat that emerges; at every defeat of their tactical schemes there is a corresponding crisis, which prevents the consolidation of the military command and increases the destruction of the U.S. strategic plan to defeat the Salvadoran revolution. There are failures of the CONARA [National Commission for Reconstruction of Affected Areas] plan in the San Vicente and Usulutan Departments, which has not taken root with the people nor fulfilled its policy of isolating the FMLN.

Our plenum proved that the undeniable tendency of the current struggle is seen in the uncontrollable advance of the revolutionary forces and in the inevitable growth of the revolutionary popular war, which has been successful and has led to the defeat of the counterinsurgency war promoted by Yankee imperialism. In response to this fact, the Reagan government insists even more strongly on a military solution and has begun to take concrete steps toward passing from a special counterinsurgency war to a local war, which implies the use of direct aggression against our people by foreign troops, including U.S. troops, thus preparing -- through Reagan's beliefs and warmongering practices -- to make use of his latest military recourse: invasion to subjugate our people through the force of arms. However, our revolution and its vanguard, the FMLN, will never be defeated. Just as we learned to face and defeat the counter-insurgency war, we are prepared to face and defeat the local war that Ronald Reagan wants to unleash against the Salvadoran people.

We Salvadoran revolutionaries have the firm determination to defeat the invader, along with the popular masses who are the unending source of our conviction in the strength and development of the struggle. In keeping with its military scheme, and to carry out its aggressive plans, U.S. imperialism imposed the celebration of elections in El Salvador. We Salvadoran Communists have maintained that only a puppet government could emerge from imposed elections, willing to continue the policies imposed by the U.S. empire.

An important part of our meeting was dedicated to examining the party's participation in the current level of the struggle, and it shone in the framework of the popular struggle. The Communists have fought, and in the clash between the people and the dictatorship much Communist blood has been shed. In the current, higher phase of our people's struggle the Communists are present, along with the FMLN's brother organizations. Within the popular revolutionary war, the PCES has given more (?of its people) to the popular cause and has deeply transformed itself. In this struggle by the people in arms, the party has been the object of profound changes, as a result of its conscious participation in the armed clashes against the dictatorship and U.S. interventionist policies. The plenum, upon evaluating this situation, proved that as a result of the consistent revolutionary practice of correctly using criticism and self-criticism and with a spirit open to change, a new party of high combative quality has emerged with new methods and work styles, which allow it to be an active revolutionary group that directs and participates in the popular struggle.

The emergence of this new quality in our party shows the firm ideological cohesion of the Communists, who have been united when directions were taken and decisions were made. The Communists have here a party of war, and its militants and units fight with arms in hand and link their tasks to the success of the FMLN's military actions. The realization of the fourth plenum of our Central Committee is a political victory for the Communists and the Salvadoran people. We have emerged with increased determination to fight, more united as a revolutionary force, sure of achieving victory, more convinced about the FMLN revolutionary forces' ability to conduct the popular battles until the victorious end and the installation of an amply representative regime of the classes and sectors desirous of a true order of democracy and liberty.

Long live the fourth plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of El Salvador. Long live the Communists who have fallen in battle. Long live the heroes and martyrs of the FMLN. United to fight until the final victory. Revolution or death, we shall win. Proletariats of all countries, unite.

[Signed] El Salvador, May 1984. Central Committee of the Communist Party of El Salvador.

RADIO VENCEREMOS PARTICIPATES IN HAVANA MEETING

PA291605 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Havana -- Members of the Radio Venceremos radio network of the Salvadoran FMLN were special participants in the first radio and television festival of the National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists. At this meeting of Cuban radio and television founders, guests from several countries participated, including Salvadoran representatives Rafael Valasquez, (Carlos Sanchez Alvarez), and (Mauricio Cepeda). They discussed the creation, in 1981, of the Radio Venceremos network, the voice and image of the revolution of the smallest Central American country.

GUATEMALA

PEACE COMMISSION MEMBER CONFIRMS RESIGNATION

PA252304 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 May 84

[Excerpt] Eduardo Meyer Maldonado this morning confirmed that his resignation as coordinator of the Guatemalan Peace Commission is irrevocable. In a written statement made public by the San Carlos University's Publicity and Information Division, Meyer Maldonado denied that he had reconsidered his resignation, as was suggested last night by Peace Commission member Gonzalo Marroquin.

Meyer Maldonado did say, however, that as investigations into several cases involving missing persons are still pending, the commission's report on the causes of violence and possible solutions is almost ready, and because other aspects related to the commission's tasks must be concluded, his departure from the commission will not take place immediately, though it will be soon.

Evangelical Church Withdraws

PA300307 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0200 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] A few minutes ago, the Evangelical Church officially announced its withdrawal from the Guatemalan Peace Commission, in solidarity with the resignation of Dr Eduardo Meyer Maldonado, the rector of the San Carlos University.

The announcement noted that the withdrawal of the Reverend (Virgilio Zapata), the church's representative, is effective immediately. The Catholic Church withdrew from the committee earlier, claiming that it is ineffectual.

17 PARTIES REGISTERED FOR 1 JULY ELECTIONS

PA300135 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 27 May 84 p 7

[Excerpt] A total of 17 legally registered political organizations will participate in the 1 July election of a national constituent assembly, which will draft the new constitution of the Republic. The parties, identified by Citizens' Registry Director Mario Roberto Guerra Roldan, are:

The National Unity Front (FUN), the National Union of the Center (UCN), the National Liberation Movement (MLN), which is allied with the Nationalist Authentic Central (CAN), the anticommunist Unification Party (PUA), the Populist Party [Partido Populista] (PP), the Democratic Institutional Party (PID), the MEC (Emerging Movement for Harmony), the Democratic Coordinating Board [Coordinadora Democratica] (CD), the Revolutionary Party (PR), the Popular Democratic Force [Fuerza Democrata Popular] (FDP), the National Renovating Party (PNR), the Guatemalan Christian Democracy (DCG), the Democratic Alliance [Alianza Democratica] (AD), the Democratic Civic Front [Frente Civico Democratico] (FCD-5), the FUR (United Revolutionary Front), and the Democratic Party of National Cooperation [Partido Democratico de Cooperacion Nacional] (PDCN).

HONDURAS

INCURSION BY NICARAGUAN TROOPS REPORTED

PA291715 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 29 May 84

[Reported by Juan Ramon Aguilera]

[Excerpts] Choluteca -- At dawn yesterday, a group of 30 armed Sandinist soldiers on horseback arrived in (Hacienda Los Lirios), property of cattleman Antonio Carranza, a resident of Choluteca. The ranch is located 3 km inside our territory. The Sandinists threatened the overseer and other workers at gunpoint while rustling numerous head of cattle. The animals rustled total a loss of 183,700 lempiras. The Sandinists joyously announced that they would continue to make incursions inside our borders and ranches because, they said, there are Nicaraguan cattle here. We hereby warn the government and the Army so they can deploy well-armed troops to the area in order to prevent all these abuses. We should respond in kind -- an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth -- so they learn to respect our people. The cattle rustled belonged to well-known Choluteca cattleman Antonio Carranza.

Mining, Rustling Protested

PA310200 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0135 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 30 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government today officially accused the Nicaraguan regime of placing mines inside its territory, causing the death of two peasant women on 26 May. According to a note of protest addressed today by Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica to his counterpart Miguel D'Escoto, Antonia Perez Lopez and Juana Mendoza died after stepping on a Sandinist mine in eastern El Paraiso Department, on the Nicaraguan border. Lilian Perez, a minor who was with the two peasant women, was wounded, according to the Foreign Ministry note.

On 28 May, according to the Honduran Foreign Ministry, Sandinist troops entered the farm "Los Lirios" owned by Antonio Carranza, in the municipality of El Triunfo, Choluteca Department, on the Nicaraguan border. The soldiers took cattle valued at $90,000 and threatened the farm workers. Another similar action -- according to the note of protest -- was carried out at the farm "La Flor" owned by Manuel Balladares and at a cooperative settlement, also in El Triunfo. The note affirmed that "these acts of cattle rustling are only a repetition of looting carried out by Sandinist troops in Honduran territory."

PAZ BARNICA ON CONTADORA, NICARAGUA, MANEUVERS

PA302237 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2254 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Guatemala City, 29 May (ACAN-EFE) -- In Guatemala City Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica today advocated that the "Contadora Group" act with objectivity to achieve peace in the convulsed Central American region. Paz Barnica, who today ended a 24-hour official visit to Guatemala, said that a basic requirement to achieve this peace "is that the Contadora Group act with objectivity, impartiality, and neutrality, because the five Central American countries have tasked them with using their good offices in this regard."

"I believe that an eloquent affirmation of this impartiality, objectivity, and neutrality must be put into practice. An example of this would be for the four Contadora foreign ministers to attend the inauguration of the new Salvadoran president. A very difficult but very successful electoral process has just ended in El Salvador," Paz Barnica added. Jose Napoleon Duarte, the new president of El Salvador, will be sworn into office on 1 June, but it is not known whether the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group (Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama) will attend the ceremony.

Paz Barnica also said that another basic requirement to achieve this peace lies in "the political will of all the Central American countries, on the basis of a political, economic, and social democracy." The Honduran foreign secretary said that for the first time in Central America governments chosen by the people predominate, referring to, in his own words, his country, Costa Rica, and El Salvador.

Paz Barnica criticized the general elections to be held in Nicaragua in November because "those elections do not meet the requirements of an electoral process in offering equal participation to the various political and social sectors of the country." "Democratization is a national commitment for all the Central American countries, including Nicaragua," Paz Barnica added.

Regarding the military maneuvers under way in his country with the participation of Honduran, U.S., and Salvadoran soldiers, Paz Barnica said that they are included in the bilateral agreements currently in force and "I do not feel these should frighten anyone." The Honduran foreign secretary justified the military maneuvers by saying that they are "a logical reaction, a means of dissuasion in face of the excessive arms race in Nicaragua." Paz Barnica added that the U.S. presence in his country is "temporary" and that "we will never allow the construction of a foreign military base on our territory."

Paz Barnica left Guatemala early this afternoon after meeting with General Oscar Mejia Victores, Guatemalan head of state, and with his Guatemalan counterpart, Fernando Andrade. They discussed matters of interest to the two countries and analyzed the Central American situation.

OFFICIAL SAYS C.A. INTEGRATION 'OBSOLETE'

PA300336 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 29 May 84 p 5

[Text] Honduran Economy Under Secretary Jose Enrique Mejia Ucles, referring to Central American integration, commented that it is obsolete, that it no longer meets the conditions for which it was created, and that it dos not respond to our current demands.

Mejia Ucles, who is accompanying Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica on his visit to Guatemala, added that he does not reject the possibility that Honduras will try to join with the other Central American countries in seeing what may be done to promote Central America's economic reactivation. Asked about the restrictions that his country has established on Guatemalan products, Mejia Ucles said there are no restrictions; the only thing required is that import duties be paid.

30,000 WORKERS PROTEST AGAINST NEW TAX PACKAGE

PA300238 Paris AFP in Spanish 0033 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 29 May (AFP) -- Over 30,000 Honduran workers stood before the Secretariat of the Economy this afternoon, demanding the cancellation of the tax package that was approved by congress last week. After walking through the main streets of Tegucigalpa, the demonstrators arrived at the ministry while President Roberto Suazo Cordova's economic advisers were meeting under strict police guard.

The workers' march, called for by the country's three labor unions, was led by various opposition political leaders, including congressman Nicolas Cruz of the National Party, and former democratic presidential candidate Hernan Corrales. The workers began their march at the Obelisk Plaza in the southern part of the city, and traveled some 2 kilometers to the government building where the secretaries of economy, finance, and planning were meeting.

DELEGATION TO ATTEND DUARTE INAUGURATION NAMED

PA252341 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 May 84 p 2

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- The Honduran Government confirmed yesterday that it will participate in Salvadoran President-elect Jose Napoleon Duarte's inaugural ceremony on 1 June. The official delegation will be led by Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, who will represent President Roberto Suazo Cordova.

The delegation will also include Colonel Efrain Gonzalez, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff; Ambassadors Jorge Ramos Hernandez Alcerro and Carlos Lopez Contreras, foreign secretariat advisers; and Ambassador Roberto Suazo Tome, Honduran ambassador to El Salvador.

EX-PRESIDENT RESIGNS AS NATIONAL PARTY LEADER

PA252235 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 May 84

[Report by Trino Murillo]

[Excerpt] Yesterday former Honduran President General Juan Alberto Melgar Castro unexpectedly resigned his position as president of the National Party of Honduras Central Committee. The party had been created as a coalition of the Zuniga and Rivera factions. Melgar Castro has said that his resignation is the result of a number of abuses being committed by National Party leaders, and denied that the Armed Forces participated or had influence in the party.

NICARAGUA

GOVERNMENT JUNTA EXTENDS STATE OF EMERGENCY

PA302306 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 30 May 84

[Communique issued by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction in Managua on 29 May]

[Text] The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of the Republic of Nicaragua, whereas:

1. That in the past few months and especially after the 21 February 1984 announcement setting the elections for 4 November 1984, and after the subsequent approval of the Electoral Law, the U.S. Government has intensified its warmongering escalation, with added violence against our homeland.

2. Despite worldwide calls to cease these attacks, encompassing the criminal mining of our harbors, murders, kidnappings, attacks on economic installations, and the continuous infiltration of CIA-directed counterrevolutionary troops on our border areas, the Reagan administration has not only intensified those attacks but has multiplied its threat of a direct intervention in Nicaragua.

3. Despite all this, the revolutionary government has already started the electoral process by offering the necessary guarantees to allow its development within institutional conditions respecting the Nicaraguan citizens' votes.

4. The revolutionary government is determined to ensure that the electoral process already under way will continue to develop to its fullest until the elections on the dates that have been officially announced are held.

Hence, in full use of its faculties, the junta decrees:

1. The extension of the national state of emergency established by Decrees 996, 1,023, 1,043, 1,056, 1,071, 1,082, and 1,255 by 50 days, beginning on 31 May 1984.

2. To limit the suspension of rights and guarantees in keeping with the national state of emergency only to the exceptions specified in Articles 8, 11, 15, 21, 23, 32, and 50 of Decrees 52 of 21 August 1979, that is the statute on rights and guarantees of Nicaraguans.

3. This decree will be in force on its publication by any mass media, regardless of the date of its publication in the daily OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Fifty years later, Sandino still lives.

[Signed] Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Sergio Ramirez Mercado, Rafael Cordova Rivas

NAVY CHIEF LUGO REPORTS CORINTO CLEAR OF MINES

PA301437 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Commander Richard Lugo, chief of the Sandinist Navy, has explained that the port of Corinto has no more mines left, but that there are some in other ports due to the sophisticated technique employed by U.S. imperialism to attack us. Commander Lugo accompanied Defense Minister Commander Humberto Ortega during civic-military aeronaval exercises staged last night to defend Corinto in the event of a possible mercenary attack financed by U.S. imperialism. Commander Lugo's statement follows:

[Begin Lugo recording] Concerning the mining of the ports, we are in pretty good shape. We have adopted certain measures with very good results. These measures include the defeat of imperialism at The Hague. You can see that they were directly involved, since now they have stopped mining our ports. Some 20 mines have been deactivated. Others have exploded. Other ports are still in danger, as usual, since this is a latent danger. The mining of ports is very serious because this type of war, so to speak, is very difficult to control, as it entails techniques and special equipment that we do not have. [end recording]

MOCK INVASION, DEFENSE EXERCISE HELD IN CORINTO

PA301540 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Our antiaircraft defense and artillery units demonstrated their skill, precision, and good aim during a mock invasion staged last night in the port of Corinto, where they hit the mercenary military ships and aircraft that in mock fashion tried to seize the local facilities. The civic-military aeronaval exercises staged last night in Corinto once again demonstrated the coordination that exists between the Sandinist Armed Forces and the mass organizations whenever the enemy of the people and their revolution try to set foot on our territory. A general alarm rang at 1920 to announce a mercenary invasion by air and sea. The city's 25,000 inhabitants immediately sought protection in the antiaircraft shelters, while the various antiaircraft defense and artillery units of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] took their combat positions to repel the aggression.

As part of the mock attacks, our antiaircraft cannon and artillery boomed, firing directly and accurately at the aircraft trying to bomb the local facilities and at the ships trying to approach the port. A naval battle between our coast guards and the enemy ships ensued. This military exercise for the defense of the homeland was staged with great realism, and the use of tracer bullets made it possible to appreciate our troops' excellent aim.

While the EPS combatants engaged in heavy fighting against the enemies of the people, the civilian defense demonstrated its effectiveness and speed by protecting thousands of inhabitants in the shelters that have been constructed in Corinto. The sound of the sirens, the din of the cannons, the rattle of the machineguns, the fires, and the voices of command gave great realism to the mock invasion, but also demonstrated the serenity, skill, and precision of our Armed Forces and civilian defense personnel in counteracting any future mercenary attack sponsored by U.S. imperialism.

For his part, Defense Minister Commander Humberto Ortega Saavedra, national chief of the Sandinist People's Militias, expressed his satisfaction over the results of these civic-military exercises, and praised the combatants' skillful handling of the complicated antiaircraft and artillery batteries and their aim in hitting the targets with great precision.

BORGE PREDICTS CONTRA INVASION OF QUILALI

PA301351 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge, minister of the interior, yesterday asserted during a visit to Quilali that many counterrevolutionaries are planning to attack that town in the next few days for propaganda purposes. He added that the CIA forces are planning to attack San Bartolo, a settlement of former residents of the banks of the Coco River, which has become an important economic project on the revolution. Borge urged the people of Quilali to build enough refuges and trenches to protect the children. He also explained: We are preparing. We have a defense system, because this town will be attacked within the next few hours. [as heard] The minister, who attended the funeral of 19-year-old combatant Bayardo Mejia Rios, a native of Quilali, asserted that the contra offensive is merely beginning and will be intensified in the future. He explained that the counterrevolution's military activities do not endanger the revolution because they are being defeated by the EPS [Sandinist People's Army]. They are, however, looking for easier conditions so the United States can stage an invasion.

DELEGATE AT AALAPSO CONFERENCE DENOUNCES U.S.

PA281735 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Algiers -- Nicaragua yesterday denounced the aggressive activities that the Reagan administration is carrying out to destroy the social achievements of the Nicaraguan people and other developing world peoples. Julio Lopez, responsible for the public relations office in the Sandinist Front, said that in view of this situation, it is necessary to develop broad solidarity and unity among the people of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Speaking on behalf of Latin America at the opening session of the Sixth Conference of AALAPSO, the Nicaraguan leader warned that the imperialist offensive is general. He also charged that the Reagan administration is trying to crush real democratization efforts by intervening directly as in the case of Grenada, by using other regimes, or through financial and economic pressure.

SANDINIST YOUTH LEADER SAYS U.S. PLANS 'FAILED'

PA261727 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 May 84

[Excerpt] The Reagan administration is intent on destroying the people's power in Nicaragua, but the young people here are ready to take their combat positions in order to keep U.S. imperialism from achieving that goal, Companero Carlos Carrion, coordinator of the 19 July Sandinist Youth, said last night at the warm tribute paid to combatant and student Marlon Zelaya, on the occasion of the first anniversary of his heroic fall in combat while serving in Battalion 30-72. According to Companero Carrion, U.S. imperialism has failed in its sinister plans against a heroic, strong, and unyielding people, who will never kneel before the world's biggest power. He added that now the CIA is demanding that the counterrevolutionaries remain in our territory, forbidding them to return to Honduras, there is a chance to annihilate the counterrevolution by swelling the ranks of the Sandinist People's Army. His statement follows:

[Begin Carrion recording] It is no secret that the Reagan administration vehemently wishes to destroy this people's power, to destroy this country, which has become unbearable to them. But despite the bestial power of the United States, this country has continued to hold its head high. [end recording]

SANDINIST YOUTH DELEGATION VISITS VIETNAM

PA291410 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] A delegation of the 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement touring the SRV yesterday visited Lang Son Province, on the Chinese border, which has recently been attacked by the Beijing government. The Nicaraguan delegation was received at Cao Loc by officials of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union. Maria Ivette Fonseca, who heads the delegation, noted the similarity of the reconstruction and defense tasks carried out by the youth of revolutionary peoples attacked by imperialism.

MISKITO DELEGATION RETURNS FROM U.S. TRIP

PA281755 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] The Miskito delegation from the Sumus-Bila settlement that met with Senator Edward Kennedy last week and denounced at the U.S. Congress the crimes that the counterrevolutionaries being financed by Reagan government are committing against the peasants, returned to the country yesterday. Irma Kolema, Aristides Sanchez, and Laura Hannel, who were accompanied by U.S. clergyman Alfredo Kundrum of the Capuchin order, said they were impressed with the way Senator Kennedy treated them. They said they told Kennedy about the situation in Sumus-Bila, Segovia, and other parts of the country. The Miskitos also told Kennedy they fear that when they return to their communities the counterrevolutionaries may try to kill them because they went to Washington to denounce the situation. They said that Senator Kennedy promised he would do whatever is possible to protect them and to keep the U.S. Government from financing the criminals.

COURT SENTENCES FPL COMMANDER'S KILLERS

PA280013 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] The killers of Commander Ana Maria, a member of the FPL [Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces], have been sentenced. According to the court documents, Rogelio Antonio Basaglia masterminded this crime, but it was carried out by Julio Armando Orellana, Santos Andres Vasquez, and Walter Ernesto Elias. Maria Ernestina Argueta and Alejandro Romero were accomplices. As you may recall, Ana Maria was murdered on 6 April 1983 by a group of three people who stabbed her 80 times, ending her valuable life.

DRAFT OF MEDIA BILL PRESENTED TO STATE COUNCIL

PA310150 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Amid heated discussions the State Council, within the framework of its third ordinary session, began the discussion on the draft of the media bill. Once the bill was read, Julio Ramon Garcia, Social Christian Party [PSC] representative before the State Council, with an outburst of violent and aggressive words rejected the bill in accordance with his party's stance. The PSC has said repeatedly that the best law is no law. The same stance was expressed by [name indistinct] of the Social Democratic Party [PSD]. Meanwhile, FSLN representative (Mario Flores Ortiz), called on the rightist sectors to control their outbursts because these can only lead to an environment of violence and division that obstructs the serious, calm, and responsible discussion demanded by the current situation.

Companero Alejandro Solorzano of the General Independent Workers Confederation questioned the rightist parties' stance. He also mentioned an article by the PSC published in yesterday's edition of LA PRENSA, in which they described the Popular Social Christian Party [PPSC] and the Nicaraguan Socialist Party (PSN) as weak allies because they helped to draft and support the media bill. Solorzano said that the rightist sectors describe these parties as weak because they do not have the CIA dollars, among other things, that those retrograde sectors are receiving and added that the progressive sectors do not want that kind of help and will remain with the Sandinist people's revolution. As expected, the PSD, PSC, and the Constitutionalist Liberal Party defended LA PRENSA's stance.

Eric Ramirez of the PSC and Companero Gustavo Tablada of the PSN were present at this third ordinary session. Lieutenant Nelba Cecilia Blandon, communications media director for the Interior Ministry, was also present at the State Council meeting. This afternoon Companero Dionisio Marenco, domestic trade minister, will appear before the State Council to provide an explanation of the distribution of basic grains in the country and information on basic procedures.

POLITICAL LEADERS DISCUSS MEDIA REGULATION BILL

PA301615 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 0230 GMT 29 May 84

["Political Debates" roundtable program with Cesar Delgadillo Machado, secretary general of the People's Social Christian Party; Reinaldo Payan, FSLN representative; Gustavo Tablada, coordinator of the Patriotic Front of the Revolution (FPR), and an unidentified moderator -- live]

[Excerpts] [Delgadillo] In regard to the media bill, the FPR feels that the social media must be regulated. We do not agree with the stance taken by some rightist parties that there are enough media laws in the country to regulate the various radio, television, and movie programs. We feel that there must be a specific and direct law for the media and that this law must be as democratic as possible: A law that, within the revolutionary process, will be an example for Latin America and the world. We feel that the bill is not what we would describe as perfect, but we do feel that with the suggestions offered by all of our companeros at the State Council, we may have a law that will be an example for this revolution and will express the feelings and [word indistinct] of the Nicaraguan people and of the leaders of the revolutionary process.

[Payan] Initially I would like to tell our people, those who are tuned in to this program, that we do not agree with the statement made by [name indistinct] that there is a crisis within the FPR. There is no political crisis within the FPR at this time. The national coordinating board is not aware of any contradictions that could disrupt the political alliance of the parties that comprise the FPR. The fact that the political parties that comprise the FPR are being very careful as to who will supervise, administrate, and control the law does not mean that there is a crisis that could affect the FPR.

We must realize that we are entering a new phase, a new situation, that forces us to restate our position. Demands must be made. The parties of the FPR -- without a crisis, even though they do not agree among themselves -- once again are discussing the major aspects of this bill, such as who will be responsible for supervising the law. By this I am not saying that the FSLN is imposing its views on the other organizations that form the FPR. Each party of the FPR, maintaining its political stance and principles, must see the importance of this law as part of the essence of the revolution.

There is no crisis within the FPR. There are two separate things: The media bill presented by the FPR, and the stance taken by the FSLN -- that is as members of the FPR we inform our people that we have presented a bill that was drafted a year ago. Now that the presentation has been made and the bill is being studied, we have to evaluate the importance of this bill for the institutionalization of our revolution. We presented the bill to discussion, and the various stances of the parties within the FPR must be considered with regard to our stance. Just because we have our differences regarding the media bill does not mean that there is pressure and opposition that can be interprete as a crisis within the FPR.

Any of the political parties that form the FPR could have adopted the stance adopted by the FSLN: that the media law should be supervised, administrated, and controlled by the Interior Ministry. This does not mean we are imposing our opinion on the other parties that form the FPR. Each of the parties within the FPR has its own political stance, its own structure, and we do have common stances, viewpoints, and efforts vis-a-vis the tasks of defense and reconstruction. But this does not mean that we cannot have our differences regarding the bill. The fact that we have not agreed on who should supervise the media law should not be viewed as a danger to the existence of the FPR. The FPR will not disappear just because of a discussion over a media law, and it will not disappear despite the organization chosen to supervise the law.

[Tablada] We knew when we began discussing the media law that we would be facing some difficulties in agreeing on the spirit of the law and on the organization chosen to supervise it. There were some problems even within the commissions created by the FPR to discuss the media bill, and little by little ends were tied up until this bill was drafted. The matter was rough and complex. However, today, as the FPR, we have presented a bill [6-second break in transmission]. We find that there are different positions, which is very normal.

This shows that the various sectors interested in our society's social and political life are participating in around a problem that is of great importance to the political and social life of Nicaraguan society. The positions are quite different and cannot be ignored. However, we do not agree that the best law is no law. We cannot agree with this, because this would allow anarchy. The media in our country must have some uniformity, must serve the people -- fulfilling a series of duties around those specific tasks demanded by our revolutionary process -- and they must be regulated.

The problem right now is who should supervise the law, whether it should be a civilian organization or one of a military nature. We believe, and continue to believe, that this law should be supervised by a civilian organization, and we believe this for various reasons. One of the main reasons is that the supervision of this law should be in accordance with what we have developed within our revolution, such as the political and democratic institutionalization of the revolution. In other words, we should seek to highlight the political and democratic aspects of our revolution. Therefore, a civilian organization should be appointed to supervise, guide, and orient the destiny of our revolution.

In addition, we should bear in mind that the plans concerning the communications media's activities include drawing up general guidelines for their behavior, seeking respect for our culture, values, and all those elements that determine the Nicaraguan people's customs. We feel that such an important task cannot be limited to a department of a ministry as important as the Interior Ministry. If this task is to be carried out, it must include -- in addition to the Interior Ministry -- the Education Ministry, the Culture Ministry, and the news media, because these must share the experience accumulated through over time.

[Moderator] Since on this occasion we do not have anyone representing all the sectors of the FPR, I would like to refer to other organizations which have issued a statement regarding the bill being discussed by the participants in tonight's "Political Debates" program. I believe that not only extreme right organizations but also extreme left organizations have strongly cirticized the bill.

As a matter of fact, the newspaper AVANCE, which was started to circulate in the past few hours, says in its editorial: The bill is openly intended -- as stated at the State Council -- to extend the state of emergency even after it is officially lifted. This would be like the sword over Damocles' head, threatening the people's demands and the workers' and peasants' struggle. The communist newspaper also said: It is false that we oppose the law's implementation by the Interior Ministry; that is the least of our worries. The Communist Party says that if this law is enforced, the elections would be reduced to a farce, and they would be without value to the Nicaraguan people. Does the FSLN representative, Companero Reinaldo Payan, have any comment about this?

[Payan] We will refer to what you have said about the Communist Party, [words indistinct] said at a meeting organized by the parties that comprise the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board. This agrees with the backward attitude of the right-wing parties, which say that this is a repressive law. It is not a mere coincidence that these parties consider it a repressive law.

They may have different viewpoints, but they agree that this is a repressive law. The Communist Party says it is repressive because it does not grant any freedom to publish their plans and their government platform -- adding that this represents enforcement of the emergency law. The Communist Party's view does not differ from that of the Social Christian Party and the Social Democratic Party -- which assert that this is a repressive law.

Basically, there is no state law that is totally opposed to the people's interests. All laws are issued with the people's interests in mind, and if we have a state that defends and guarantees the people's worker', peasants', and employees' interests, the laws will surely affect only certain interests: The interests of classes which no longer enjoy the privileged positions they had during Somozist times.

Therefore, the parties that claim they defend the revolution and the people's achievements, and the parties which claim we are enforcing a dictatorial state of emergency, share the same view. The laws that exist in Nicaragua, and the bills that are being discussed at the State Council, seek to defend the interests of our people -- who really guarantee our revolutionary state. Some people say this is a repressive law, and it is true: The law will repress those sectors interested in turning the news media into lackeys of those who want a return to the past. The law will prevent this, as it necessarily should. This law will also deal with the sectors that try to use the news media to undermine, weaken, or divert the revolutionary process and the people's goals -- which are defended by the revolutionary government.

In fact, we are not surprised that these sectors agree that this is a repressive law. Regarding the differences and contradictions that may exist among the parties comprising the FPR, they can be solved eventually through frank and honest talks. This will help us create a law that truly legitimizes the revolution.

[Delgadillo] When we drafted the bill, we were not thinking only about radio and television. Sometimes, when people talk about the communications media, they forget about the other aspects: magazines, shows, printing shops, movies, and many others that will be regulated by this organization.

This is why we have insisted that a completely autonomous organization within a ministry -- independent from the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction -- should be in charge of enforcing the law. However, this does not mean we oppose the Interior Ministry. We respect it very much -- above all Commander Tomas Borge and his deputy ministers. They have done a praiseworthy job within the Interior Ministry. Unfortunately, the Interior Ministry has a noncivilian charisma within the government. What we advocate is that the law should be enforced by a civilian organization that is accepted at the national and international levels, so that the law we will issue in Nicaragua regarding the communications media is issued as an example. The law includes a series of norms and regulations, and we believe that it should be enforced by an organization of the revolutionary state. This does not necessarily have to be a bureaucratic organization. Bureaucracy is created by a vast number of people working within an organization in an inefficient and unproductive way, without regulations to prevent this.

[Payan] Regarding the topic discussed during tonight's "Political Debates" program, we wish to report to the people that the most important aspect of the news media law refers to the organization that will be in charge of enforcing this law. The FSLN believes that this news media law should be enforced by the Interior Ministry. This has been rejected both by allied parties and by those which openly oppose the revolutionary process. However, the people should know that the organizations controlling these news media laws in countries such as France, Denmark, Sweden, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Venezuela are the government ministries. Logically, these government ministries are civilian organizations, but they are carrying out the Interior Ministry's job, with the exception that our Interior Ministry is a vanguard organization which remains in the foremost trench in defense of our revolution. It is of a military nature due to the characteristics of our revolution. This should not scare our people or provoke mistrust among FPR parties, because it is a serious and responsible organization that must defend our people's interests.

FSLN SUBMITS DOCUMENTS TO BECOME PARTY

PA291445 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Yesterday, the FSLN submitted to the National Council of Political Parties, CNPP, the documentation required by the Political Parties Law to legally operate as an organization aspiring to participate in the November elections. The documents were submitted by a popular vanguard delegation headed by Rene Nunez, secretary of the FSLN National Directorate, and comprising Guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez, Darmalila Carrasquilla and Companero Leonel Espinoza.

As the vanguard group that led the Nicaraguan people to defeat the Somozist dictatorship and which has remained at the head of the reconstruction process of the new society -- for which thousands gave their lives, while others have continued to generously offer theirs -- the FSLN considers it of the utmost importance to fulfill all the requirements and become a legal party to participate in the November elections, according to the message Revolution Commander Bayardo Arce Castano sent to the CNPP to register the FSLN as a political party.

4 Parties Receive Accreditation

PA300343 Managua Sistema Sandinista de Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 29 May 84

[[exceprt] This afternoon the Popular Social Christian Party, the Constitutionalist Liberal Party, the FSLN, and the Social Christian Party [PSC] submitted the documents at the National Council of Political Parties [CNPP] that accredit them as members of that organization and give them the right to nominate candidates for the 4 November elections.

The secretaries of each of the parties presented the documents to Hugo Mejia, representative of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. Julio Ramon Garcia, PSC representative on the State Council, signed the registry.

So far, 10 political parties have received accreditation from the CNPP. The groups that have not yet registered have a 90-day period in which to do so. If they fail to register, they will not be allowed to take part in the political campaign.

BOMB EXPLOSION AT NEWS CONFERENCE INJURES PASTORA

Solano Confirms Report

PA310418 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0359 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] San Jose, 30 May (DPA) -- Eden "Commander Cero" Pastora, one of the leaders of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance which is fighting the Sandinist government in Nicaragua, was injured tonight (local time) when a bomb exploded at a place called "Boca Tapada," in Nicaraguan territory.

The explosion occurred during a news conference. In addition, there were 2 dead and 18 injured, most of them newsmen of Costa Rica and other countries. According to the report, Pastora was seriously wounded. Costa Rican Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano has confirmed the report.

Further on Attack

PA310556 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0544 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] San Jose, 30 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Commander Eden Pastora was injured and three newsmen were killed in a serious attack that occurred tonight at approximately 1900 local time (0100 GMT) at the "La Penca" camp of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, on the northern basin of the San Juan River (Nicaragua), on the border. In addition, 28 people were injured, most of them newsmen, as a result of the explosion which occurred in a warehouse of Pastora's forces. The most seriously injured newsmen include a U.S. reporter whose legs were mutilated.

It has also been announced that Commander Fernando Chamorro (El Negro) was also wounded, but this has not been confirmed. He is being transferred by the Costa Rican Red Cross, together with Pastora, Commander Cero. Both are in very serious condition, according to reports to ACAN-EFE by neighbors in the border area.

Tito Chaverri Said Injured

PA310622 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0611 GMT 31 May 84

[Excerpts] San Jose, 30 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The first seven newsmen who were injured in the attack on Commander Eden Pastora arrived a few minutes ago in Pital, near the border. They are Latin American and European reporters.

Pastora has refused to be evacuated from his territory until all newsmen and combatants who were wounded have been evacuated. It has been unofficially reported that those killed in the attack were a guerrilla woman and two Costa Rican television reporters.

A last-minute report disclosed that Commander Tito Chaverri, who led the takeover of San Juan del Sur port, is the most seriously hurt of all those injured.

U.S. Reporter Killed

PA311228 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0932 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] San Jose, 31 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Red Cross officials have identified the U.S. newswomen who died last night during the attack against Eden Pastora. She is Linda Frazier, who worked in this capital for the English-language weekly publication THE TICO TIMES. She suffered multiple wounds and her legs were blown off when a plastic explosive device exploded in the two-story house where a press conference was being held with Pastora, Tito Chamorro, and other guerrilla leaders.

The latest Red Cross report on the wounded at El Zaino includes Roberto Cruz Sandival (Chinese agency XINHUA), Tony Abraham (U.S. ABC network), Evelio Sequeira (Channel 5, Costa Rica), and Carlos Vargas (Costa Rican newspaper LA REPUBLICA).

Meanwhile, ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] representatives who still remain in this capital have not been able to identify the persons responsible for the attack, which nearly cost ARDE leader Eden Pastor his life. The attack occurred last night at 1900 local time (0100 GMT) at the rebel camp of La Penca, 2 km inside Nicaraguan territory, where the guerrilla commander was meeting with several journalists from European and American countries.

Pastora was explaining ARDE's division over the decision by some of its members, led by Alfonso Robelo, to join the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, which fights the Sandinist Government in northern Nicaragua, near the Honduran border.

Monge Blames Nicaragua

PA311211 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1026 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Madrid, 31 May (EFE) -- Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge believed that the attack on Eden Pastora is the work of Nicaraguan agents infiltrated into ARDE [Revolutionary Democratic Alliance], the organization of "Commander Cero," Pastora.

Monge today told EFE in Madrid: "It has always been said that ARDE is infiltrated by Nicaraguan agents. This attack apparently serves to confirm this allegation." Luis Alberto Monge is on a 4-day official visit to Spain. The visit concludes tomorrow, Friday.

Pastora Taken to Panama

PA311240 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 May 84

[Excerpt] Official Costa Rican Government spokesman at midnight last night informed President Luis Alberto Monge about the sad event in which 3 persons died and 18 journalists were injured and suffered burns as a result of an attack on Commander Eden Pastora. The attack took place at approximately 1930 in a place known as La Penca, 2 km inside Nicaraguan territory, near the Costa Rican border.

It has been reported that Eden Pastora was taken by plane to Panama at dawn today, but he is not seriously injured, according to the report.

COSTA RICAN PAPERS ANNOUNCE FDN-ARDE MERGER

PA310311 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2115 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] San Jose, 30 May (DPA) -- According to press reports published here, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) and the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) have agreed "to join forces to defeat the Managua communist regime militarily."

The newspapers LA NACION and LA REPUBLICA today published reports on the merger, which was made without the cooperation of Eden Pastora, who, according to reports, will continue "his struggle separately, in the mountains of southern Nicaragua, with his Sandino Revolutionary Front (FRS)." Pastora rejected the merger between "ARDE" and the "FDN," alleging that "the FDN is made up of former Somozists who massacred the Nicaraguan people in the past."

It was disclosed that "the negotiations for the merger lasted approximately 1 month and that ARDE was split into two groups: One made up of the majority of the groups belonging to ARDE, who agreed to the merger under certain conditions already accepted by the FDN, and another group headed by Pastora, who demanded that all former Somozists be expelled from the FDN in order to have a merger."

According to the newspapers, a final decision to join forces and work on a quick plan for "national convergency" was reached yesterday. This plan "does not mean that either group is surrendering anything to the other but that they are joining efforts to unite the Nicaraguan people, who want to oust the nine commanders," the newspapers added. It was also reported that "the final document is being drafted, and it is only a matter of details before it is completed."

Orion Pastora, the head of information for the FRS, said that the "FRS withdrew from the final talks and that Eden Pastora will continue his mission separately."

The decision at the ARDE general assembly was made by a vast majority of 24 votes to the 3 of Pastora's FRS.

An FDN spokesman, who asked not to be identified, told the newspapers that "the merger is a fact. Only small details are pending. The final document will be released soon. So far, we can say that the FDN and ARDE have joined forces at last and they will fight throughout Nicaragua beginning on 1 June."

According to conversative estimates, the FDN has 4,500 men in arms, and ARDE has 2,000. It is estimated that approximately 400 men will remain loyal to Pastora.

It was also noted that FDN/ARDE "will work together in the southern, northern, and western fronts of Nicaragua and will begin an urban guerrilla campaign in Managua, Masaya, Granada, Rivas, and Chinandega in June." It was also reported that "the offensive to be launched by the FDN/ARDE will be devasting and that they will fight in up to eight places at the same time in the next few weeks."

According to a last-minute report gathered by DPA, the documents on the FDN/ARDE merger will be signed somewhere in "free" Nicaraguan territory, and it was added that "these groups have the support of the Nicaraguan people, who were anxious to see an agreement on the merger of these forces."

PASTORA BLAMES 'CIA PRESSURE' FOR ARDE SPLIT

PA301517 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1332 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] San Jose, 30 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Eden Pastora, commander in chief of the ARDE (Democratic Revolutionary Alliance) armed forces, has said that the CIA is responsible for the divisions within his organization. "The crisis began all of a sudden as a result of CIA pressure and of President Reagan's last speech," which -- according to Pastora -- "led Robelo's group to believe that the Marines were about to arrive in Nicaragua, and that they would be placed in the government."

In an exclusive statement to ACAN-EFE, Pastora, "Commander Cero," said that the melding of Robelo's group and the Somozist FDN (Nicaraguan Democratic Forces) leaders who direct actions in northern Nicaragua was forged as time went by, because of the "ideological identification" between them. "What they seek with this merger is an army that will guarantee them the ministries, without considering that these former guardsmen could kill them afterwards," the guerrilla commander added.

Pastora has set a 72-hour deadline in which his companero in ARDE's leadership, Alfonso Robelo (representing the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, MDN), must decide whether "he will remain with his people or go to Honduras, to be on the side of the Somozists."

ARDE is now divided into two groups, who follow Pastora or Robelo. Fernando Chamorro ("El Negro") has openly supported Robelo, and Brooklin Rivera, of the Indian "MISURASATA" (Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity) has done so tacitly.

The leaders who have remained with Commander Cero are Jose Davila (Christian Democracy), Donald Castillo Orozco (labor union sector in exile), and the other members of the Sandino Revolutionary Front (FRS) which Pastora himself founded.

"I give Robelo 72 hours to make his decision: To be either with the Nicaraguan people, or with the Somozists and enemies of the people. But if he decides to go, the sooner the better," Pastora said.

According to Pastora, his men will soon confront a large offensive to be staged by the Sandinist People's Army (EPS), which has 20,000 soldiers ready to attack on roads in El Rama, El Almendro, Punta Gorda, Nueva Guinea, and other areas in southern Nicaragua, as well as in El Castillo, near the great lake.

"I will not leave ARDE, because we are three well-defined organizations and because we are the ones who carry the burden of war, the ones who struggle and fight," Pastora stressed.

He added: "With or without Robelo, with or without money, I will not give up my principles." He concluded his statement with a call to the democratic forces, the Socialist International, liberals in North and Latin America, to help him save the [words indistinct].

COMMUNIQUE ON 'INTENSIFIED' OPERATIONS

PA310400 Paris AFP in Spanish 0143 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 30 May (AFP) -- The Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) today said that its troops "continue waging heavy combat" against the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] in the Department of Matagalpa, in the central region of the country.

An FDN communique, signed by its Commander in Chief Adolfo Calero, indicates that the operations had intensified in the last [words indistinct], resulting in 55 Sandinist casualties. The communique stresses that the heaviest fighting is being waged in the regions of Las Banderillas, La Patriota, and El Cacaon in southeastern Matagalpa. The rebel communique also states that "fierce battles" are being waged some 25 km from Ocotal, the capital city of Nueva Segovia, where the Army has suffered 17 more casualties.

Meanwhile, the FDN emphatically denied that the Rafaela Herrera Regional Command, comprised of some 2,000 men, had been virtually annihilated, as was announced by the Managua government. "Our guerrilla columns remain firm and are advancing on new enemy positions throughout Nicaraguan territory, despite the fact that they are clashing with an Army superior in number and weapons," the communique concluded.

PURPOSE OF NEW FDN FRONT IN SOUTH DISCUSSED

PA260510 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1957 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 24 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The anti-Sandinist armed movement called the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] is trying to consolidate a new front in southern Nicaragua to tie in with the forces that are fighting in the north and thus divide the country in two.

Today FDN military sources told ACAN-EFE about the strategy that the anti-Sandinist movement implemented on 17 May, opening a new front in southeastern Nicaragua. "Our objective is to deepen our penetration from the north and the south, to tie the two fronts together in the central Department of Matagalpa and thus to divide the country in two," and FDN fighter said. He added that "in this way it would be very hard for the Sandinist Army to break our resistance and our supply lines, while we would be isolating the Pacific coast from the Atlantic."

According to the FDN member, who is closely linked to the rebel organizations's military high command, "if we can successfully carry out this pincer operation, Managua would be left practically defenseless and we could prevent the Sandinist Army from reinforcing its positions in the eastern part of the country."

The MISURA, an anti-Sandinist Indian movement, is fighting in that region and maintains extensive coordination with the FDN. The FDN, trained and equipped directly by the CIA, has been fighting the Nicaraguan Sandinist regime on the northern front along the border with Honduras for the past 18 months.

For the first time since the struggle began, the FDN announced a week ago that it was opening a new front in southern Nicaragua, an area where the other important anti-Sandinist organization, ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance], has been operating for the past year. The FDN's decision to open this new front in southeastern Nicaragua comes at a time when ARDE is having enormous difficulties in consolidating its positions in the area.

In its first operation on the new southern front, the FDN reported "the total destruction of the Sandinist Army's general headquarters in Chontales Department, 145 km southeast of Managua."

According to the FDN, some 20 Sandinist troops died in this action, but it did not say anything about its own casualties and about how many men are currently fighting on the new front.

Meanwhile, the FDN commands attacked several Sandinist Army trucks in Matagalpa Department 3 days ago, inflicting 90 casualties on the enemy," the rebel station Radio 15 September reported." [quotation marks as received]

Indalecio Rodriguez, an FDN Directorate member, announced over Radio 15 September "that strong clashes are taking place in the northern Departments of Nueva Segovia, Esteli, Madriz, and Jinotega."

The FDN, which claims to have more than 10,000 armed men, recently restructured its military organization and established four large autonomous regional commands on the instructions of U.S. guerrilla warfare experts.

BRIEFS

RELATIONS WITH SEYCHELLES -- The Nicaraguan revolutionary government has established diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level with the sister Republic of Seychelles. Javier Chamorro Mora, permanent Nicaraguan representative to the United Nations, signed the appropriate diplomatic protocol with his counterpart from the Seychelles, according to Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry officials. [Text] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 May 84 PA]

DIPLOMATIC CREDENTIALS -- Three new ambassadors have delivered their credentials to Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. They are Luis Fernando do Couto Nazaret, from Brazil; Francois Nordmann, from Switzerland; and Amir Usman, from Pakistan. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 17 May 84 p 5 PA]

NEW PLC SECRETARY GENERAL -- The leaders of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party (PLC) have elected Alfredo Reyes Duque Estrada as the new secretary general of that political organization. He replaces Julio Centeno Gomez, who resigned several weeks ago. Since Centeno Gomez' resignation, the leadership has been held jointly by Diamantina de Quintanilla and Rodolfo Mejia Ubilla. [Summary] [Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 May 84 p 10 PA]

CANADA DONATES AMBULANCE BOAT -- Today the Canadian Government presented the Nicaraguan Federation of Health Workers with an ambulance boat, which will provide assistance to the communities on the banks of Lake of Nicaraguan. The cost of the ambulance boat and its equipment is approximately $30,000. [Summary] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 May 84 PA]

MORE ON SIXTO BATISTA AFRICA DAY SPEECH

FL301354 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] The main ceremony held on Africa Day to commemorate Cuba's solidarity with that continent took place at the Ministry of Communication in Havana. Ethiopian ambassador to Cuba Aemero Wondimagegnehu -- representing Africa on this day -- gave a speech at the event. He underscored Cuba's solidarity with the African nations and the significance of the OAU's work.

Division General Sixto Batista, alternate Politburo member and keynote speaker at the ceremony, said the commemoration was taking place at a dangerous time because of imperialism's policies of blackmail, threats, and confrontation. He condemned the reactionary design of dividing the liberation movements, supported by countries such as South Africa, Israel, and Morocco, to name a few.

[Begin Batista recording] Because of this situation, it is necessary to insist on defining who our real friends are and who are our enemies, and identifying those who support the peoples' cause and who would betray them. On this Africa Day, we can sincerely say with deep revolutionary conviction that the Cuban people's capacity to fight and sacrifice, to yearn for liberty, dignity, and social progress are infinitely superior to imperialism's aggressiveness, obstacles, difficulties, and renewed strategic alliances. [end recording]

In his own words, Batista described Cuba's position facing threats and attempts at making negotiations on Namibia conditional on Cuban internationalist troops leaving Angola. Batista also spoke about the joint statement signed by Comrade Fidel and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

[Begin Batista recording] There is nobody or anything that can ever intimidate us. Cubans know the sacrifice which is a part of their internationalist vocation, and they have assumed this task with full knowledge of their historic responsibility. [end recording]

Sixto Batista emphasized Ethiopia's advances and SWAPO's struggle. He summed up the situation the United States has created in Central America as part its hegemonic intent of creating worldwide tensions.

[Begin Batista recording] From here we greet the thousands of civilian combatants and collaborators who, in Angola, Ethiopia, and other African countries, are celebrating this day along with their African brothers. These internationalists, in their daily toil of teaching, rescuing lives, building highways, factories, and schools, are contributing to creating the foundation for the progress and happiness of these people. They constitute the greatest testimony of Cuba's internationalist spirit and of its friendship toward and solidarity with Africa. [end recording]

CIVIL DEFENSE EXERCISE CARRIED OUT IN MATANZAS

FL310102 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] A demonstration exercise in the defense zones has been held in Matanzas. The Territorial Troops Militia [MTT] participated, and the final results were deemed successful. The maneuver showed a high degree of organization and preparation for a war of all the people if necessary. During the maneuver, the Civil Defense gave instruction on the economic and territorial objectives to the fire, health, repair, and livesaving brigades. Likewise, activities were practiced that would be carried out in case of air strikes, chemical warfare attacks, the evacuation of affected areas, and the outbreak of epidemics. The exercises also included [words indistinct] combat information of the MTT.

U.S. HOUSE ACTS ON C.A. AID, SENDING TROOPS

PA260447 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The U.S. House of Representatives has rejected President Ronald Reagan's request that it allocate $21 million to the CIA for the support of the covert war in Nicaragua, with 241 votes against and 177 in favor of the motion. However, the House approved the military aid requested by Ronald Reagan for the Salvadoran regime. An additional $62 million was approved, to continue to support the Salvadoran regime and to extend its survival. The supplementary aid to the Salvadoran regime was approved by 267 votes in favor to 154 against.

Also in Washington, the House of Representatives rejected by 314 nay votes to 64 yea the dispatch of U.S. troops to El Salvador and Nicaragua. The document adds that this decision would change should the U.S. Congress, in case of war, declare that troops are necessary to protect the U.S. embassies or to evacuate U.S. citizens or those of other nations. The vote did not include the issue of sending military advisers or counselors.

U.S. REPORT ALLEGES COVERUP IN NUNS' MURDER

PA260219 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] It has been reported in Washington that for more than 3 years high-ranking Salvadoran civilian and military authorities concealed and protected the National Guardsmen who murdered four U.S. nuns in 1980, according to an investigation carried out by U.S. Judge Harold Tymer. The document drafted by Tymer asserts that Salvadoran military and civilian authorities, including current Defense Minister General Eugenio Vides Casanova, knew who the criminals were all along and concealed their identity for years.

SALVADORAN CHRISTIAN GROUP CITED ON 1984 DEATHS

PA280138 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] The humanitarian organization called the Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero Christian Legal Aid Office has charged in Mexico City that at least 1,348 people were killed in El Salvador by members of the Armed Forces and paramilitary elements in the first 4 months of 1984. It explained that this figure does not reflect the total number of victims resulting from the Salvadoran regime's repression, as it includes only those cases that have been reported to the Christian Legal Aid Office. It added that during the same period, the Salvadoran Air Force carried out 26 bombing missions against civilians in areas that the regime regards as guerrilla strongholds.

Meanwhile, Radio Venceremos has reported that over 100 employees at the Giboa Sugar Mill, located in the Salvadoran Department of San Vicente, have been dismissed in the last few days. It said that such mass dismissals, which are becoming increasingly frequent in the country, are a consequence of the irreversible economic crisis faced by the Salvadoran regime. In turn, the Salvadoran Unified Trade Union Movement has charged that the country's most powerful economic sectors, which are opposed to the positions taken by President-elect Jose Napoleon Duarte, have said that they will try to destabilize the country's economy even further by closing many businesses.

HONDURAN SOLDIERS CROSS SALVADORAN BORDER

PA242228 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Honduran soldiers have crossed the border and penetrated 3 km into Salvadoran territory, in areas of Morazan and Chalatenango Departments, where they clashed with FMLN guerrilla forces. This is the second time in less than 48 hours that Honduran troops have invaded Salvadoran territory in an aggressive and provocative action carried out at the same time that the "Grenadier-I" military maneuvers are beginning with the participation of members of the U.S., Honduran, and Salvadoran Armies.

FMLN SAYS MANEUVER TROOPS TO ATTACK IN SALVADOR

PA291357 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] More than 17,000 Salvadoran, Honduran, and U.S. troops are planning incursions into northern Morazan, La Union, and San Miguel Departments to disrupt FMLN control over those areas. The rebel station Radio Venceremos reported that 13,000 Salvadoran soldiers, 1,000 U.S. Marines, and 3,000 Honduran infantrymen will take part in these operations. The patriotic intelligence services that uncovered these operations reported that these attacks on rebel positions are scheduled to start this week and end in mid-June as part of the "Grenadier-I" maneuvers that started a few days ago in Honduras.

The same source added that a Salvadoran combat unit known as the Long-Range Reconnaissance Unit will take part in the operations. Its objective is to enter freed territories and direct aerial attacks over the radio. Radio Venceremos also reported that the operations' objective is to give a military victory to Jose Napoleon Duarte's regime following his inauguration on 1 June.

REPORTS CITED ON SALVADOR ARMY-GUERRILLA CLASHES

Cuscatlan, La Union Fighting

PA230452 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] FMLN rebel columns have clashed with the regime's troops in Cuscatlan and La Union Departments; meanwhile, Radio Venceremos has reported that soldiers of the Ponce Battalion set fire to several houses and kidnapped several Salvadorans living in the town of Lislique.

Press reports received in Costa Rica state that the Salvadoran rebels dealt an overwhelming blow to the military forces at an important access road near the City of Suchitoto. Other clashes were reported in Poloros, Lislique, and Nueva Esparta. In Lislique, according to NOTISAL, the guerrillas inflicted seven casualties on the elite Ramon Belloso Battalion and scattered units of the Conchagua Battalion, another elite battalion trained by U.S. advisers. In La Union Department, soldiers led by Colonel Domingo Monterrosa set fire to a convent and several houses, and kidnapped many local townsfolk.

Army Suffers Casualties

FL232000 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Cables dispatches from El Salvador state that guerrilla forces have inflicted more than 40 casualties on the Salvadoran Army in the last few hours. Platoons of the FMLN ambushed a company of the elite Rangers Battalion in (Canton San Pedro), San Miguel Department, inflicting 40 casualties.

Almost simultaneously, other insurgent columns attacked troops of the 6th Infantry Brigade on the coastal Highway, in the section leading to San Nicolas Lempa, a town located in San Vicente Department, it was reported by the SALPRESS news agency. In this attack, a noncommissioned officer of the Salvadoran Army was killed, and three soldiers were seriously wounded. The guerrillas captured military stores and ammunition.

Fighting Near San Salvador

PA260046 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] FMLN guerrilla columns have attacked Army troops in Mejicanos, on the outskirts of San Salvador, where the regime has sent members of the 1st Infantry Brigade. The clash with the troops lasted several minutes, after which the guerrillas withdrew; no details on the number of casualties were given.

Meanwhile, other rebel contingents destroyed the San Miguel gambling house, a place where the oligarchs and the area's landowners meet. Radio Venceremos reported that this center was being used to plan abductions and the murder of people who are suspected of cooperating with the rebel forces.

FMLN RECAPTURES ESCAPED SALVADORAN OFFICER

PA260440 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] In an operation carried out in Morazan Department, FMLN forces have recaptured Captain Napoleon Medina Garay, who had escaped from a rebel camp where he was being held prisoner. According to reports by Radio Venceremos, the official voice of the rebel forces, the Salvadoran Army official was being held prisoner on the charge of perpetrating massacres among the civilian population; however, he managed to escape last Tuesday, with two other counterrevolutionaries.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran guerrilla columns attacked Army troops in the town of Mejicanos, on the outskirts of San Salvador, where the regime had sent 1st Infantry Brigade troops. After clashing with the Army's reinforcements for several minutes, the rebels withdrew.

Other reports reveal that some 5,000 Salvadoran employees who work in the state-owned telecommunications company have declared a strike, demanding social reforms from the regime.

CLASHES NOTED, STRIKES REPORTED IN EL SALVADOR

PA232149 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Several Salvadoran soldiers were killed and others wounded in a clash between a guerrilla column and a 6th Infantry Brigade squad in a sector of the coastal highway near San Nicolas Lempa in San Vicente Department. A noncommissioned officer was killed in this action, in which the rebels seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition. In another operation, the FMLN forces killed 25 soldiers and wounded 15 near Ciudad Barrios, San Miguel Department.

Meanwhile, some 300 workers of the National Institute of Government Employee Pensions [INPEP] have been on strike for the past 15 days demanding a wage increase. Another 150 workers from a candy factory are also on strike to protest the dismissal of several of their leaders. The tense situation of the Salvadoran regime has worsened with the dismissal of 32 workers from the Central Electoral Council, which according to reports has not paid most of its employees.

REFUGEES IN MEXICO REPORT GUATEMALAN CORDON

PA280326 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Guatemalan refugees in camps in the Mexican State of Chiapas have charged that the Guatemalan regime has placed a military cordon at the border to keep people from crossing it. They explained that if other Guatemalans have not arrived in Mexico in the last few months it is not because the repression has ended but because the ironclad military control prevents passage over the border. The Guatemalan refugees said that their country's regime wants them to leave their current locations because they are a window through which the world can see the serious situation affecting their brothers.

In Mexico City, the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission has criticized the increasing violations of the human rights of students and authorities at San Carlos University. According to information provided the commission by relatives of the victims, the repressive Guatemalan forces have illegally captured, caused the disappearance of, or executed several students, professors, officials, and other employees at this institute of higher learning in the last few weeks. The Guatemalan Human Rights Commission cited the cases of students Hugo de Leon Palacios, Gerardo Rivera Arevalo, and Moises Arraiga de Leon, who were captured and later vanished. It adds that archeologist Carlos Enrique Erick Astrilla Garcia was left -- seriously wounded -- in the vicinity of a soccer field by unidentified men who abducted him from his residence.

DISCORD REPORTED IN GUATEMALAN PEACE COMMISSION

PA250256 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The Guatemalan military regime and the Guatemalan Catholic Church and San Carlos University are drifting apart. The directors of the church and of the university have announced that they will quit the Peace Commission, which is doing nothing to stop the violence. According to the Guatemalan Information and Analysis Service, Archbishop Prospero Penados del Barrio and San Carlos University Rector Eduardo Meyer Maldonado have said that there is no sense in having a Peace Commission while the number of persons kidnapped and disappearing keeps increasing. So far this month, at least 30 persons have been kidnapped, and nothing has been heard from them. The Peace Commission was founded on 29 March at the request of the Catholic Church and San Carlos University in an effort to stop the violence. Members of the Armed Forces have participated in the Peace Commission.

Rector Resigns

PA232053 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 May 84

[Text] Eduardo Meyer, rector of the San Carlos University of Guatemala, has charged that the police have escalated their repression of the country's educational centers. In view of a wave of kidnappings and disappearances among Guatemalan students, Meyer said that he will resign as coordinator of the Peace Commission that was created by General Oscar Mejia Victores' government with the participation of representatives from many sectors. Msgr Prospero Penados, archbishop of Guatemala, and the Association of Guatemalan Journalists have made similar announcements, claiming that under current conditions the commission, which was created 2 months ago, cannot properly carry out its functions. The rector of the San Carlos University said that it is not possible to draft a constitution in a climate of bloodshed, violence, and aggression.

GUATEMALAN FAR BLOCKS ROAD IN PETEN DEPARTMENT

PA301447 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] The Guatemalan Armed Rebel Forces [FAR] stopped traffic on the main road in the northern El Peten Department and occupied a farm in the Dolores municipality. A bulletin from the FAR, which is a part of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, has reported that the Rigoberto Florian guerrilla detachment took a stretch of highway last Thursday. This stretch is located between El Ocote Bridge and the Dolores municipality. The rebels stopped traffic on the road for 3 hours and held a meeting with residents denouncing the maneuvers of the Oscar Mejia Victores regime in the electoral process for election of a constituent assembly in July. Another FAR unit occupied the Santa Rosa farm, where a political rally was also held with peasants.

COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATION BEGINS IN HONDURAS

PA292010 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] It has officially been reported in Tegucigalpa that some 5,000 U.S., Honduran and Salvadoran soldiers began a broad counterinsurgency operation in Honduras' western mountain region, bordering El Salvador and Guatemala. An Honduran Army spokesman has reported that these are the military exercises which had been announced last week. The counterinsurgency operation, commanded from the Cucuyagua landing strip, constitutes the climax of the "Grenadier-I" exercises begun officially on 23 May. During the exercises' preparatory stage, some 800 U.S. military engineers built the Cucuyagua landing strip near El Salvador and also the Jamastran landing strip, only 20 km from the Nicaraguan border. Both landing strips, which are 332 meters [as heard] long, can accommodate C-130 military transport planes, a type not included in the Honduras Air Force inventory.

50,000 WORKERS IN HONDURAS TO PROTEST NEW TAXES

PA292122 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Honduras' three trade unions have called a protest march for today against the new taxes that have been imposed by the government under IMF pressure. It has been estimated that some 50,000 workers will participate in the demonstration, which was called by the General Central Organization of Workers, the Confederation of Honduran Workers, and the United Federation of Honduran Workers.

On Thursday, the Honduran Government established a 5-percent additional tax over the existing 20 percent on all imports, including raw materials, which will cause a general increase in the price of basic products. The measure was the result of pressure from the IMF, which demanded a tax hike if Honduras wishes to continue to be included in the IMF credit system. The IMF is under U.S. control.

NICARAGUA'S D. ORTEGA CITED ON U.S. 'PLAN'

PA280526 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has charged that there is a U.S. plan to attack Penas Blancas and Cardenas, possibly on Wednesday, to kill Costa Rican civil guardsmen, and thus to provoke a break in relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua and the convocation of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR.

On the "Face the People" radio and television program, Ortega accused Ronald Reagan's government of promoting these plans, which will conclude, in the face of a possible TIAR refusal, with an attack on Nicaragua by U.S. troops, under the pretext that they are defending Costa Rica.

After warning that an attempt is being made to use the trip that Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge begins today, the Sandinist leader added that Nicaragua has reliable reports that counterrevolutionary forces are being concentrated at the La Libertad farm in Costa Rica. In view of these adventuristic plans, he said, the FSLN National Directorate and the government junta have appointed Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock, in addition to his normal responsibilities, to give special attention to Region Six, which includes Jinotega and Matagalpa Departments. In addition, Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion will be tasked to pay special attention to Region Five, which includes Boaco, Chontales, and part of Rio San Juan, as well as special Zones One and Two, which include Zelaya Sur and the rest of Rio San Juan Department, on the Costa Rican border.

Ortega noted that Washington is now seeking to use Costa Rica as a pretext by taking advantage of the fact that that nation has a certain peaceful image in Latin America and is a country that, because it has no army, can easily be portrayed as a victim of the Sandinists.

More on Ortega Charges

FL281218 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega has announced that a U.S. plan exists for an attack on the Penas Blancas border area around 30 May. He also said that there were plans to assassinate Costa Rican civil guardsmen, break off Costa Rican relations with Nicaragua, and to bring into effect the Inter-American Mutual Assistance Treaty, under which the United States would invade Nicaragua. Ortega said that under these conditions, Commander Jaime Wheelock will take over, as a special assignment, the command of the 6th region, which includes Jinotega and Matagalpa Departments. Commander Luis Carrion will take command over the 5th Region which includes several important border pass areas with Costa Rica where counterrevolutionary forces are beginning to concentrate.

Ortega added that members of the Sandinist Front National Directorate had been assigned command over the other regions because this was the best time to organize the country. And, Ortega said, that if the United States invades Nicaragua, it will encounter another Vietnam, because the the Nicaraguan people will defend themselves under the slogan of "A free nation, or death" [Patria libre o morir"].

NICARAGUAN OFFICIAL ON TARGET PRIORITIES OF CIA

PA280148 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Commander Juan Jose Ubeda, Nicaraguan Interior Ministry delegate for the 6th Region, has announced that the Departments of Jinotega and Matagalpa are priority targets for the counterrevolutionary activities launched by the CIA. Ubeda said that the high mountains, dense jungles, and backwardness in which the peasants of the area have lived are some of the factors that the CIA took into account in launching its offensive. The Nicaraguan commander added that only the continuous supplies brought by aircraft from Honduras permit the counterrevolutionary troops to continue their mercenary attacks.

Commander Ubeda stressed that the peasants in Jinotega and Matagalpa have rejected the aggressors, because they destroy their homes, property, and agricultural cooperatives. This rejection is the most important political blow to the counterrevolution, which is also constantly being defeated militarily by the Sandinist People's Army and the Sandini militias.

NICARAGUAN SUCCESSES AGAINST CONTRAS CITED

Piranha Boat Sunk

PA260408 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The Sandinist Air Force sank another of the counterrevolutionaries Piranha-type boats some 40 km south of the Nicaraguan Port of Bluefields during a military operation launched against counterrevolutionary groups that entered the country along the Atlantic Coast. The boat that was destroyed was being used to rescue a group from a mercenary contingent that was being persecuted by Nicaraguan combatants in the area of (Lausiksa) Karawala. This is the seventh Piranha boat that has been sunk by the Nicaraguan Armed Forces in the last few days. The joint actions of the Sandinist militias, Army, and Air Force have resulted in many counterrevolutionary casualties, and many weapons have been recovered.

The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry also reported that a group of 22 peasants who are members of the militia prevented the occupation of the (Garrobo) cooperative, some 25 km from Waslala in Zelaya Department.

Meanwhile, Harry Bergold, new U.S. ambassador to Nicaragua, has said that he brought nothing new to improve the tense bilateral relations. Bergold arrived in Nicaragua last night and will soon present his credentials to the Nicaraguan authorities.

Contra Base Destroyed

FL281804 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] The Sandinist armed forces have struck hard at mercenaries launched by the CIA, inflicting about 200 casualties in fighting northwest of (San Jose Bocai), Jinotega Department, about 290 kilometers north of Managua. Lieutenant Juan Estrada, a member of the General Staff of the Sandinist People's Army who was in the area, said that artillery units destroyed the enemy's rearguard base of (Turuwas) which was supplied by air with arms and munitions from Honduras. At this base, 169 mercenaries were killed and an independent force that was attempting to penetrate deeper into Nicaraguan territory was annihilated.

200 Contras Killed

FL301536 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] A dispatch from Nicaragua reports renewed fighting between the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] and the U.S. CIA-backed mercenaries. The Sandinist troops fought back with heavy artillery to wipe out a group of mercenaries in northern Nicaragua, with the EPS attacking the counterrevolutionaries by air and by land. The use of modern BM-21 multiple missile launchers and 122-mm howitzers dealt a hard blow to the CIA mercenaries. A preliminary count of enemy casualties indicated that more than 200 had died. This is how the Sandinist revolution vigorously responds to the largest CIA military attack yet against Nicaragua.

ARDE WEAPONS CACHE DISCOVERED IN COSTA RICA

PA242202 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 May 84

[Excerpt] The Costa Rican Judicial Investigation Agency has seized a cache of weapons belonging to the group of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries that is operating in that country. Preliminary reports indicate that a total of 21 heavy weapons were confiscated from two anti-Sandinists and a Costa Rican citizen who said that they belonged to a splinter group of ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance], the counterrevolutionary organization that is led by the traitor Eden Pastora.

SUPPORT CITED FOR L.A. DEBT INITIATIVE

Venezuela Supports Meeting

PA251520 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] The convocation of a Latin American meeting to examine the economic crisis of the region proposed by the presidents of Argentina, Mexico, Brazil, and Colombia has received full support. Manuel Villar, PRELA correspondent in Caracas, reports on the Venezuelan Government's approval of the meeting:

[Begin Villar recording] The Venezuelan Government has reiterated its support for the basic principles of the joint declaration issued by the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico regarding Latin America's foreign debt. Political circles here deplored the fact that Venezuela did not sign the declaration. In their declaration the Latin American heads of state expressed their concern over Latin America's delicate situation as a result of the enormous foreign debt, the payment terms imposed by the IMF and the international banking system, and the increasing interest rates. The Venezuelan Government also deplored the fact that due to reasons of time it has not signed the declaration with the inclusion of proposals submitted by Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi. The paragraph drafted by Lusinchi's government established that the proposal for regional policies on the foreign debt would depend on the acceptance of the regional call and a change in the relations among debtor and creditor countries.

Meanwhile, the presidents of Colombia, Mexico, Argentina, and Brazil considered indispensable and urgent the initiation of a joint effort of the international community to solve the foreign debt problems. Perhaps these aspects are the only difference between the declaration signed by the Latin American heads of state and the Venezuelan Government, which reiterated that it agrees with the basic principles of the joint declaration. The declaration was fully supported by directors of all the political, social, and economic organizations of Venezuela, with the exception of those sectors that interpreted the document as a step toward the establishment of the so-called club of debtor countries [club de países deudores], which was not considered. Politicians like former President Carlos Andres Perez and Gonzalo Barrios, president of the official Democratic Action party, expressed their satisfaction over the joint declaration issued by the Latin American heads of state and also pointed out that it expresses the feeling of the countries of region. [end recording]

Nicaragua Supports Declaration

PA260330 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] A communique issued in Managua by the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction declares support for the joint declaration issued by the presidents of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Brazil on the critical economic situation affecting Latin American countries.

The Nicaraguan Government also announces its willingness to attend the meetings that might be called to discuss the acute crisis, produced by the unjustified increase in interest rates imposed by the capitalist powers and banks.

The document, issued in Managua, points out that the economic situation affecting the developing countries is becoming increasingly difficult, primarily because of the United States' disproportionate military expenses and the policy of monetary restriction being applied by Washington to control its domestic inflation rate. Finally, the text of the communique issued by the Nicaraguan junta asserts that the manipulation of interest rates is increasingly and artificially increasing the weight of the underdeveloped nations' foreign debt, and that it is impossible for countries under financial pressure to pay such a heavy debt.

Nicaraguan Urges Joint Action

FL291953 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Managua -- The president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua, Luis Enrique Figueroa has said in Managua that Latin American countries, impoverished by unfair exchange rates, should define common lines of action to confront their present foreign debts. This high official, commenting on the statement of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction that supports the initiative of Argentina, Mexico, Brazil, and Colombia, stated that the increase in U.S. military spending has caused a meaningful increase in the U.S. fiscal deficit that exerts great pressure on the interest rate.

SELA's Alegrett Comments

PA280225 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] SELA Permanent Secretary Sebastian Alegrett has charged here in Havana that the Latin American countries are under strong pressure to reject the initiative undertaken by the Argentine, Brazilian, Colombian, and Mexican presidents, who have called for a meeting to find a way of dealing with the region's foreign debt.

In an interview with Radio Havana, Alegrett noted that this is the right time to hold such a meeting, which he described as a historic step provided by the leaders of these four nations, inasmuch as the economic situation has been rendered totally unbearable by a unilateral decision to increase interest rates for the exclusive benefit of the United States.

The SELA permanent secretary stressed that the increase in interest rates implemented by the international banks and the financial institutions that protect them is a result of the U.S. Government's deficit financing policy. The entire world is being deprived of capital for the sole benefit of the United States, which wishes to finance its deficit, its defense spending, and its policies in certain regions, Alegrett emphasized.

He indicated that our governments cannot stand still in the face of the removal of capital from Latin America, the growing debt, and the intolerable trade protectionism pursued by the industrialized nations.

He concluded that the Havana Declaration on the Industrialization of Latin America, which was approved in the Cuban capital on Friday, will have an important influence on the Third World countries and on how they deal with the fourth general UNIDO [United Nations Industrial Development Organization] conference, to be held in Vienna in August.

BRAZILIAN PLANE SALE TO HONDURAS REPORTED

PA262004 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Brazilian Government spokesmen have explained that the delivery of T-27 Tucano military planes to Honduras does not represent the beginning of a massive sale of arms to Central America. A Foreign Ministry spokesman has said that Brazil's position has always been not to sell arms to countries engaged in a war of open confrontation. A spokesman for the Brazilian Ministry of Aeronautics has said that although the plane can be used to launch rockets and bombs, it was built essentially for training.

However, a Honduran official source has confirmed that the Brazilian T-27's will be used in operations near the Nicaraguan border. The T-27 is just what we need to train pilots and for direct combat, the spokesman for the commander of the Honduran Air Force said.

COSTA RICA DENIES BUYING BRAZILIAN PLANES

PA291515 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 May 84

[Ly Rafael Ugalde]

[Text] Costa Rica has denied the purchase of military planes from Brazil amid an atmosphere of confusion due to the arrival of between 400 and 1,000 U.S. military engineers. Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano Calderon described as absolutely false the report from Brazil that Costa Rica is negotiating the purchase of military planes. The reports, officially rejected as false, stated that Costa Rica is negotiating the purchase of eight Tucano planes and four (?Strido) helicopters, although the value of the purchase was not revealed.

The U.S. incursion in southwestern Costa Rica was also clearly rejected. A significant number of residents of Golfito, 350 km from San Jose in Puntarenas Province, have charged that the U.S. Government is trying to militarize the Central American country. The U.S. did not rule out the possibility that it might build a small military base on Cano Island, near the Gulf of Dulce, Gorda Peninsula, also in Puntarenas.

The residents reported that the overflight of helicopters from the Panama Canal Zone [as heard] became more frequent as plans for the arrival of U.S. military engineers advanced. Their arrival is scheduled for September. Eight U.S. and five Panamanian soldiers recently occupied [as heard] Golfito Airport in an unexpected operation. Three foreign correspondents confirmed the unloading of medium-size luggage and the occupation of that airport for more than 2 hours. The official report given to me in that port city stated that the soldiers were there to follow up an operation against drug traffickers.

Important buildings and walls in the Port of Golfito are painted with slogans saying: "We do not want Yankees," "We do not want soldiers in Costa Rica."

BOMB EXPLODES IN QUITO; NO VICTIMS OR DAMAGE

PA302005 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] A low-power bomb exploded in front of Quito's metropolitan cathedral but caused no victims or damage. At the site of the explosion, pamphlets of the Alfaro Vive Movement were later found demanding clarification of the death of former President Jaime Roldos and holding the U.S. Government, the CIA, and the Pentagon responsible.

JAMAICA

SEAGA TO GIVE BUDGET SPEECH TO PARLIAMENT

FL242336 Bridgetown CANA in English 2249 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 24 (CANA) -- Prime Minister Edward Seaga, seeking the advantage of prime time television and a large evening radio audience, is to begin his annual budget presentation to Parliament at 7 pm (2400 hrs GMT), five hours later than usual. But, according to a government announcement, this year's budget speech will be shorter -- lasting approximately two hours instead of the four to five hour presentation to which Jamaicans have become accustomed. "The new time will enable the live broadcast of the presentation to reach a wider audience at a more convenient hour," the prime minister's office said.

After Seaga's presentation today, the budget debate will continue next week.

For the first time in several years, back benchers in the Parliament, which is now comprised solely of members of Seaga's Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) will be able to make contributions to the debate. Previously the budget debate was restricted to a selected number of government, minister, and major opposition spokesmen in the 60-seat House of Representatives. However, there is no opposition presently in the lower house following the boycott of last December's general election by the People's National Party (PNP).

Announces Civil Service Cuts

FL251742 Bridgetown CANA in English 1705 GMT 25 May 84

[By Paget de Freitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 25 (CANA) -- Prime Minister Edward Seaga, determined to push through his stringent economic policies and drastically slash Jamaica's ballooning fiscal deficit, last night disclosed plans for significant public sector retrenchment and announced 45.1 million dollars (one Jca dollar; 26 cents U.S.) in new taxes to raise the package for this year to 183.6 million dollars. The prime minister, who is also finance minister, did not say how many jobs would be lost in the public sector, but his estimate that 69 million dollars would be saved by the exercise suggested that it will run in the thousands. The Jamaica public sector is estimated to employ 120,000.

The new taxes will affect drivers to drinkers and shop operators and were announced by Seaga in Parliament as he began debate on the 3.9 billion dollar budget he tabled two weeks ago.

But seeking to provide a cushion for the poorest, Seaga also raised the national minimum wage, provided tax relief for earners up to 7,000 dollars a year, and outlined a programme of nutritional support to reach a million people. The minimum wage for domestic workers has gone from 30 dollars to 44 dollars weekly and to 46 dollars for other workers, while income tax has been abolished for 40,000 people who earned up to 5,000 dollars per annum.

The prime minister's statement came against the backdrop of increasing unease with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) inspired programmes that, apart from local currency devaluations, has seen the government introduce a tight credit policy and a commitment to reduce the budgetary deficit from nearly 16 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to 8.3 per cent this year.

The drive of the government's programme is to attack deficits in the balance of payments which have persisted, despite what Seaga said was his success in halting the other negative trends in the island's economy since taking office in November 1980. In fact, Seaga said that government had to "show a significant surplus this year" on the balance of payments which would help to put a halt to the drain on the foreign reserves and reduce the need for borrowings to close gaps.

Projected recurrent expenditure is put at 2.9 million dollars and capital expenditure at just over a billion dollars. Seaga projected an overall deficit this fiscal year of 698 million dollars, against the 1983/84 figure of more than 1.24 billion dollars.

To help achieve this, he plans to increase the recurrent revenue for 1984/85 to 2.719 billion dollars against last year's 1.717 billion dollars. The government also intends to hold its current expenditure to 2.84 billion dollars -- a little more than 400,000 dollars over last year's amount, which has been more than gobbled up by inflation. At the same time, the 121 million dollars deficit on the current budget and 577 million dollars on the capital side provides the overall 698 million dollar fiscal deficit projected for 1984/85.

"The success of this plan is dependent on holding expenditure to the given levels while raising the resources projected...it is essential that as far as possible, there is no wastage in the public sector," Seaga declared. It is towards this end that staffing in all ministries, departments, and other public bodies was "being carefully reviewed" according to the prime minister. The exercise will lead to: Re-assigning staff to productive work, and where not possible termination of employment; vacancies no longer being automatically filled; and fulfilling retirements and unless considered necessary not filling the slot.

"The government regrets having to institute this redundancy programme, but the necessity arises from the need to control the cost of government so that the level of borrowings to finance the budget will be manageable," Seaga said. He said that comparative studies had determined that the Jamaican civil service, in proportion to the population, was the largest in the world.

Discusses Gambling, Jobs

FL252100 Bridgetown CANA in English 1957 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 25 (CANA) -- Prime Minister Edward Seaga has argued strongly on the ability of casino-related tourism development to provide the jobs and foreign exchange necessary to urgently attack Jamaica's unemployment problem. But he says that he will not make a decision on two applications now before the government until the updating of a 1981 poll that showed the majority of Jamaicans were in favour of casino gambling.

Church leaders have been campaigning against casinos, but according to Seaga the 1981 survey showed that 59 percent of the people were in favour of them. While only 22 percent agreed with the opinion of the church on gambling, some 58 percent said they would rather increase than decrease support for a government that introduced casino.

In his budget presentation to parliament last night, Seaga said that projections for the next three years anticipated expansion of the island's main productive sectors -- bauxite, manufacture, agriculture and tourism -- [which] as presently structured, could not provide the required necessary resources to make an urgent dent in unemployment.

He said that to generate a rate of growth in the economy to crea 32,000 jobs a year, which would be meaningful but not dramatic, capital budget spending would have to be increased by 130 million dollars and imports by 100 million dollars (U.S.) in 1984/85, reaching 200 million dollars (U.S.) by 1986/87. But if job creation was to expand to 45,000 per annum, the expenditure levels would have to be increased by 200 million Jamaican dollars in capital programmes and 140 million dollars (U.S.) to 265 million dollars (U.S.) on exports over the three years.

These were gaps above resources presently available, particularly with the world recession that had knocked the bottom off the Jamaica bauxite industry. This industry was not expected to regain its 1980 levels until near 1990, Seaga said.

The restructuring of manufacturing to increase export earnings and agriculture for exports and to provide self-sufficiency in a number of areas as well as alternative energy programmes to save on foreign exchange held good potential, but generally in the medium to long term.

Tourism, Seaga said, had top potential for revenue and foreign exchange earnings, yet if the country proceeded by the normal investment route, the earnings would be too limited "to make any impact on the urgency of reducing unemployment substantially."

But Seaga said the government had received a proposal for the construction of 3,000 new hotel rooms starting this year, but this was tied to the granting of licences for two casinos and a race track. He said that construction would bring 175 million dollars (U.S.), then there would be tourism expenditure of 300 million dollars (U.S.) per year after construction, and a casino levy and tax of at least 100 million dollars (U.S.). Additionally, the prime minister said 5,000 people would be employed on the project during construction and [in] 15,000 jobs created afterwards.

Seaga said the government had not yet responded to the proposal because it had not taken a decision on casino gambling. "As I said some weeks ago, I shall be watching the reaction of the people for guidance," the prime minister said. Seaga said he would up date the 1981 survey "for guidance," and commission a British firm to survey all Caribbean locations with casinos "to determine whether any of the fears expressed concerning escalation of crime and drug trafficking exist." Interested parties had until July 31 to make submissions on the matter.

Seaga said: "I believe...that I could not take a decision to reject a proposal without guidance from the people which could have as much impact on the economy as to double the benefits of the entire tourism sector. I recognise too that if there is positive support for introducing casino gambling to obtain such benefits, there are many safe-guards that would have to be built in to avoid certain types of operators and operations."

GOVERNMENT TO SET UP EXPORT-IMPORT BANKS

FL261546 Bridgetown CANA in English 1500 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 25 (CANA) -- Jamaica has announced plans to transform two existing government institutions here into an export/import bank and a national investment bank. According to a policy paper presented to Parliament to support Prime Minister Edward Seaga's 1984 budget presentation Thursday night, the Jamaica Export Credit Insurance Corporation (JECIC) which is a subsidiary of the (central) Bank of Jamaica will become an exim bank.

The new institution would however continue the JECIC's present functions of providing credit insurance and administering lines of credit and the export and rehabilitation funds, but will also have the job of mobilising new credits to be offered to exporters.

"It is considered that the new entity will be better able to attract the resources required to enable it to extend the new areas of assistance to exporters, expand assistance through current programmes, and develop more comprehensive management of this vital area of institutional support to the planned export drive," the government said.

The Jamaica National Investment Company (JNIC) which holds equity in a number of companies here on behalf of the government, will be turned into the National Investment Bank (NIB), and will be the holder of equity for the state in all new commercial enterprises. The NIB will also have transferred to it all government equity in selected enterprises and statutory bodies to ensure proper monitoring and supervision, as well as to facilitate divestment.

SEAGA EXPECTS APPROVAL OF $180-MILLION IMF LOAN

FL252248 Bridgetown CANA in English 2206 GMT 25 May 84

[By Paget De Freitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 25 (CANA) -- Jamaica's application for a 180 million dollar (U.S.) credit from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) goes before the Fund's directors in five days, and the government anticipates little trouble in getting it approved, according to Prime Minister Edward Seaga.

"Everything is in place (for the programme) except for one arrangement that has to do with a line of credit...and that line of credit has been approved and is just awaiting a Telex message confirming it," Seaga told reporters today. The prime minister did not disclose who was providing this potentially critical line of credit, but said that Central Bank Governor Horace Barber was in Washington trying to speed up its confirmation and talking with IMF officials.

Government critics were sceptical of Seaga's confidence, pointing to several statements in the past indicating that an IMF agreement was at hand. As preconditions for the assistance, the Jamaican dollar has been sharply devalued, credit tightened, and government deficits slashed.

The IMF loan, as well as the Fund's seal of approval to carry to western bankers and donor countries, is important to Jamaica's economic and foreign exchange programme for 1984/85. Seaga, fleshing out in Parliament last night his 3.9 billion dollar (J) fiscal budget, did not mention the state of the agreement.

But he today underlined the critical nature of the programme by confirming that the formalisation of an agreement in principle with creditor banks for the rescheduling of 161 million dollars (U.S.) in loans was contingent on an IMF agreement. That agreement, in principle, was arrived at in June last year, when Jamaica was having problems with the IMF under a previous programme, and would push back payment on principal due between June last year and March next year to 1990. This agreement is part of an overall plan on debt rescheduling that Jamaica is hoping to carry out this year, and which Seaga has described as "one of the major planks of the economic programme" for 1984/85.

In fact, the prime minister announced that Jamaica was approaching Organisation for Economic Cooperation in Development (OECD) members for rescheduling arrears in principal on loans, targetted at 172 million dollars (U.S.). Terms being canvassed, he said, would be a grace period until 1990 with maturity in 1995.

The government intends to also approach its non-OECD creditors for rescheduling of other loans along similar lines, Seaga disclosed. Success in the attempts, particularly with the western industrialised states, would almost certainly hinge on an agreement with the IMF.

Jamaica at the end of December was carrying a 3.129 billion dollar (U.S.) foreign debt portfolio, 43.5 per cent of which was to creditor governments and their agencies, and 13 per cent to commercial banks.

PNP CRITICIZES SEAGA BUDGET SPEECH, IMF POSITION

FL301110 Bridgetown CANA in English 2320 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 29 (CANA) -- Jamaica's opposition People's National Party (PNP) has branded as "bogus" the island's 1984/85 budget, and has charged Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Edward Seaga with "insulting" the country by failing to outline how the 3.9 billion (J) dollar package would be financed.

PNP spokesman of finance Seymour Mullings Monday night also lambasted Seaga for being mum during his budget presentation last Thursday night on the state of negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a stand-by credit which is critical to the government's economic programme this year. "His silence on these two matters is most deafening," Mullings declared. "It was an insult to Jamaica to have presented the budget last Thursday without even a mention of the state of negotiations with the IMF for a stand-by facility," Mullings said. "This is the most critical single factor around which all economic measures introduced by the minister of finance since November last year have revolved."

The PNP is unrepresented in Parliament because it boycotted last December's snap elections.

Seaga told a post-budget news conference Friday that his government's programme for the 180 million (U.S.) dollar stand-by credit would go before the fund's director monthend. The IMF loan is not only critical to Jamaica because of the hard currency it will bring to the foreign exchange-starved economy, but also for the seal of approval it will provide the government to take to western bankers and countries. In fact, the government is awaiting the agreement for the formalisation of rescheduling commercial bank loans, already agreed to in principle, and for it to begin serious talks with a number of countries to roll over other loans. As pre-conditions for the IMF loans the government has since last November sharply devalued the local currency, cut back government spending to reduce budgetary deficits, and tightened credit.

Addressing hundreds of PNP's supporters at the party's "people's forum," Mullings said that Jamaica's deepening economic problems could be traced to a widening trade deficit which resulted from "a carnival of consumerism" that had been encouraged by the Seaga government, and a "reckless borrowing spree" undertaken to finance the splurge during the first two years of the Seaga administration. Every Jamaican now owes some 1,549 dollars (U.S.), with the total foreign debt -- government and government-guaranteed -- running at 3.097 billion (U.S. dollars) at the end of December against 1.79 billion (U.S.) dollars when the PNP left office in 1980, he said.

OPPOSITION CHARGES COVERUP ON ARMS DISCOVERY

WA301710 Rome IPS in English 23 May 84

[Text] Kingston, May 23 (IPS) -- The Opposition People's National Party (PNP) in Jamaica has accused the police of hiding from the public details about a recent discovery of an arms cache on the port of Kingston. "So important a security matter cannot be left hanging to fuel speculation and rumor," the PNP spokesman on national security, Keith Knight, said in a press statement today.

Police reports last week said four M-16 assault rifles and nine handguns were discovered on the wharves by customs officers.

Knight said the arms find was "significant," coming so close after the killing of seven people in clashes between rival factions of the ruling Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) two weeks ago. "We call on the police high command to say whether the guns were listed on the manifest as 'general cargo'," said the statement. Further, Knight said the police should disclose the name of the ship on which the arms allegedly arrived, and whether the shipment was assigned to a person detained during a state of emergency declared in 1976 by the previous PNP government.

SHOOTINGS IN WESTERN KINGSTON KILL 4 PERSONS

FL261848 Bridgetown CANA in English 1800 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 26 (CANA) -- Four persons, including a seven-year-old girl, were shot and killed yesterday in the latest bout of violence in volatile Western Kingston, police have reported. No motive had been determined, but suspects had been identified and Commissioner Joe Williams has ordered a thorough investigation. According to the police report of the incident, three armed men went to a building in Rose Town and opened fire on three men aged between 18 and 25. The little girl standing nearby, was also shot and killed. Police patrols in Rose Town, backed by reinforcements, cordoned off and searched the area but the gunmen escaped.

GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES FUND TO SAVE ENERGY

FL182320 Bridgetown CANA in English 2156 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 18 (CANA) -- A 11.5 million dollar (U.S.) Energy Credit Fund (ECF), to which the private sector can access for retrofitting and the manufacture of energy saving devices, has been launched in Jamaica as the government continues its quest to conserve and reduce massive spending on imported oil. The new fund is jointly financed by the government, whose input is 5.6 million U.S. dollars, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) which has put in 5.9 million U.S. dollars. It is the second phase of a programme that began in 1981.

The first phase was geared towards the public sector and government buildings and institutions were energy audited and retrofitting started. This phase is specifically for the private sector and is aimed at encouraging energy conservation, the use of cheaper sources of energy, and investment in energy-related industries.

The fund is administered by the National Development Bank (NDB) and maximum loans to qualified borrowers is 200,000 dollars U.S. repayable over six years at 16 per cent. It will operate on a revolving basis over the 20-year life of the project.

Jamaica at present spends about 250 million U.S. dollars a year on imported oil, which accounts for 98 per cent of its energy requirement. Energy Minister Hugh Hart said he hopes the programme would lead to a saving on that cost.

PRIVATE SECTOR NOT SUPPORTING AGRICULTURAL THRUST

WA301914 Rome IPS in English 21 May 84

[Text] Kingston, May 21 (IPS) -- The Jamaican private sector is not showing much enthusiasm for "Agro 21," a much vaunted agricultural program the government hopes will revolutionize export agriculture, the official in charge of the venture said yesterday. "There is no rush," James Rinella, the American who is executive director of the "Agro 21" Secretariat, said of the local private sector response. "They are just sitting back and looking." Rinella was speaking yesterday at a convention organized by the Jamaica Institute of Management in the north coast resort of Ocho Rios.

Agro 21 -- so named because it was launched in 1983 when Jamaica celebrated its 21st anniversary of independence from Britain -- is designed to put some 200,000 acres of unutilized and under-utilized land into production, using modern technology. Rinella stressed that the program was formulated by the state for implementation by the private sector.

Only a few local businessmen, however, have shown interest in Agro 21, he said, adding that the initial heavy involvement in the program by the state-run Jamaica National Investment Corporation (JNIC) is only to provide "a push start." There are limitations to what the state could do, he said.

Rinella also reported difficulties in motivating small farmers to grow vegetables and other staples for the U.S. market because the price offered was less than could be obtained locally. Small farmers in Jamaica are getting prices here 50 percent above that which they were offered on the American market. "When you say to them 'you can't sell your tomatoes on the international market at the price you have been getting in the ethnic market because it is not competitive,' they say 'we are not going to grow it'."

The Agro 21 program has been strongly criticized for failing to embrace the Caribbean nation's 150,000 small farmers. The Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS), the main farmers' grouping, has been pressing the government to introduce a "companion program" that would meet the specific needs of the small farming sector.

In his weekend speech, Rinella acknowledged that farmers who were willing to seize export opportunities had plots 30 to 40 acres and larger.

SURINAME

GOVERNMENT FORBIDS PROFIT CAPITAL EXPORT

PA252352 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The Surinamese authorities have forbidden the export of capital in the form of profits, dividends, and rent payments. According to a communique released by the Transport, Trade, and Industry Ministry, this measure was adopted because of Suriname's difficult exchange reserves situation. A financial expert in Paramaribo said that the measure means that the profits made by the subsidiaries of foreign enterprises operating in Suriname will have to be invested in the country.

GOVERNMENT OPPOSES IMF DEVALUATION OF CURRENCY

PA260436 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 0130 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Negotiations for an IMF loan to Suriname, which began this week, have met with some problems, according to reliable sources in the Surinamese capital. The IMF has apparently imposed the devaluation of the Surinamese florin by 50 percent as a condition, a step that the Surinamese Government opposes.

NEW AMBASSADOR TO NETHERLANDS REPORTEDLY NAMED

PM231258 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 21 May 84 p 3

[ANP report: "Suriname Appoints New Ambassador to Netherlands"]

[Excerpt] The Hague -- Mr H. Heidweiler will be Suriname's new ambassador to the Netherlands. This has been confirmed by well-informed sources in Paramaribo. Heidweiler, who is 55, is currently Suriname's ambassador in Washington and will succeed H. Herrenberg. The Netherlands has approved Heidweiler's appointment.

VENEZUELA

PRICE OF HIGH-SULFUR RESIDUAL TO BE INCREASED

PA261651 Paris AFP in Spanish 1603 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Caracas, 26 May (AFP) -- Beginning Monday, Venezuela will increase the price of its high-sulphur content residual by 50 cents per barrel, the newspaper EL UNIVERSAL reported today in Caracas. This is the second increase in less than 2 months for that fuel, which is used for heating and by thermoelectric plants. The residual fuel is obtained after the light-grade products are distilled.

Venezuela exports a total of 280,000 barrels of residual daily, with different sulphur contents of up to 3 percent. The increase will affect the 190,000 barrels daily of high-suphur content residual and will mean additional revenues of $100 million in 1984, which will be distributed between the treasury and nationalized industry.

Since 15 April, Venezuela has sold its high-sulphur content residual at prices ranging between $26.71 and $27.58 per barrel, it was recalled. However, for 30,000 barrels daily of low-sulphur content residual -- currently sold at $28 to $29 per barrel -- a price reduction is being contemplated. The increase is a result of the "good trend" in the marketing of heavy and residual fuel on the East Coast of North America, which is supplied by Venezuela and Mexico.